



30P

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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 1996



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RUNCIE, ROYALTY AND RELIGION

'I have done my best to die before this book is published'
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Richard Cork is dazzled and delighted
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Runcie revelations force review of future Supreme Governor's position

Angry Church leaders query Prince's role

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

INSIDE

THE Prince of Wales's suitability to become Supreme Governor of the Church of England is being questioned at the highest level after Lord Runcie's assessment that he has "given up" on the Church.

Church leaders, already dismayed by the Prince's confession of adultery and divorce, are privately appalled by the revelations in Humphrey Carpenter's biography of the former Archbishop of Canterbury and the Prince's future position is now under review.

Lord Runcie's assertion that the Prince is disenchanted with the Church and that he is more interested in a "Laurens van der Post spirituality" confirmed many people's suspicions, and a senior source said last night: "The Church of England is very concerned about the mid-term relationship between the monarchy and the Church.

"The thinking is that the supreme governorship might become a titular rather than an active thing. There is concern at the highest levels about the Prince of Wales's apparent lack of commitment to Christianity. There is a definite need for him to reaffirm the uniqueness of Jesus Christ and people feel he is failing to do that — that he is all over the place."

The Queen is said to be looking at possible disestablishment of the Church among other reforms of the monarchy, but most Church leaders strongly oppose any loosening of the link between Church and State and yearn for a

strong statement of Christian commitment from the Prince.

But in his television interview with Jonathan Dimbleby last year, the Prince expressed his wish to be "defender of faith" rather than the defender of the Protestant faith.

That view is not acceptable to many. The leading evangelical, the Rev David Holloway, said: "He is committed to a multi-faith approach. He has to be true to himself, but the Church of England is clear on that: it is not multi-faith."

Others, however, insisted that the Prince's faith was solid. Lord Runcie's former chaplain, the Rt Rev Graham James, said: "The Prince of Wales worships regularly in the Church of England. He has not given up on the Church at all. I think it would be to the credit of the Church that it eventually had a Supreme Governor who is as fascinated by religious experience as Charles seems to be."

Apart from their concerns about the future Supreme Governor, Church leaders are also privately shocked that the confidentiality traditionally

is water under the bridge.

A Palace spokesman said:

"It seems that private remarks made by Lord Runcie have been taken out of context and we have no intention of debating them. Lord Runcie has always been publicly supportive of the monarchy and his wise and helpful advice on many occasions as Archbishop was, and still is, much appreciated."

"This is not the moment for any acrimonious debate and the Palace will have nothing more to say on this particular matter: it is water under the bridge."



Through the eye of a needle: the Prince in Birmingham yesterday as controversy raged over his religious beliefs

Hanson wary of Labour's business pitch

By PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR'S attempts to portray Labour as more sympathetic to business are dismissed today by Lord Hanson, the industrialist.

The party's new business policies amply justify suspicion of new Labour and prove that, like old Labour, it stands for regulation and interference and is hostile to true competition, according to the chairman of the Hanson conglomerate. Writing in *The Times*, Lord Hanson examines Labour's business manifesto and says it "does not encourage me one iota to place my bet on new Labour".

Lord Hanson, page 18

Public may be allowed to hit back at strikers

By PHILIP BASSETT, JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

PLANS to allow the unions to sue for heavy damages if they order strikes in the monopoly public services and longer cooling-off periods before industrial action are to be considered by ministers.

The proposal to remove immunities from civil action will go before a Cabinet committee. Conservative sources said, as John Major and Tony Blair were intent on new laws effectively banning strikes.

Mr Blair will deliver a tough message today to trade union leaders, telling them to co-operate with a Labour government. He will arrive in Blackpool this afternoon to appeal to the TUC for a new "evolutionary" relationship with the party. The Labour leader is determined to under-

line the message that his party is no longer in hock to the trade unions and that they will be given no special favours.

However, Labour appeared to row back yesterday on the idea of compulsory arbitration by suggesting that it would back "binding arbitration" for public-sector disputes after trade union leaders reacted furiously to reports that Mr Blair was intent on new laws effectively banning strikes.

The Tories were equally determined yesterday to ensure that they were not outflanked by Labour. The Prime Minister and Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said that the Government was drawing up legislation to curb industrial action, giving a clear warning that public service workers could no longer

Government lawyers seek to close new fraud loophole

By OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT lawyers are urgently working to plug a legal loophole that has seriously undermined the ability of prosecuting authorities to tackle a range of frauds.

The problem is a recent law lords' ruling that prevents use of the Theft Act of 1968 to prosecute cases where money is passed from one person's bank account to another's. The ruling, in a case called *Freddy*, has led the Serious Fraud Office to call for a Bill in the next parliamentary session.

As a result of the ruling, which was made in July, prosecuting authorities have been left to try to bring far less appropriate charges, such as conspiracy to defraud, which is harder to prove and does not in any case affect cases where only one criminal is involved.

Stephen Silber, QC, a Law Commissioner who is involved in preparing a draft report and Bill to close the loophole, said the ruling's impact was huge.

At first the ruling was thought to have had its biggest impact on mort-

gage fraud, and there were fears of a large number of appeals being lodged by convicted fraudsters. But a further ruling has limited the right of fraudsters to lodge appeals and only a handful have done so.

The law lords, in a judgment given by Lord Goff of Chieveley, ruled that when money was passed electronically or by telegram between bank accounts, no identifiable property was involved. The transfer cannot therefore amount to an attempt to obtain property dishonestly. In the transfer, one person's right to the property is extinguished and another's created, which

cannot amount to obtaining the property of another.

Publicly, prosecuting authorities are trying to play down the impact of the ruling. The Crown Prosecution Service said that only a handful of pending cases were affected. But a spokesman added: "We all want to see the difficulties that this case has exposed resolved, although it is ultimately a matter for the Home Office."

In private, however, officials in both the CPS and the SFO are alarmed, particularly if legislation is not forthcoming.

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Future for unions lies in working with the bosses, Monks tells TUC

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT
AND JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

UNION leaders were urged yesterday by John Monks to lift the movement out of opposition and prove who could be part of Britain's recovery.

In a clear endorsement of new Labour, the General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress called for unions to work with companies as well as for their own members. He said: "For 17 years trade unions have been painted as part of Britain's problem. Our challenge is to be part of the solution."

Mr Monks foresees a new brand of unionism working more closely with companies facing change and competitive pressures and also with a government trying to combat decline. He said: "Trade unionism is at a crossroads. Unless public policy changes, and above all, unless we change, we shall take the road marked retreat."

He said: "We need a determination to fight the exploiter, the undercutter and the hirer and firer among Britain's employers. But it must be matched by an equal determination to deliver for the employer seeking to do the right things in the long-term interests of the workforce and the country."

His rallying call as the political parties square up for a general election campaign has been likened to the blunt words delivered by Len Murray in 1983.

Mr Monks told the opening of the congress that while unions had to be true to their best traditions they also had to be ready for the new. He asked: "We have been changing fast, but have we been changing fast enough?"

Mr Monks said progress had been made in the TUC's work with the Government.

He said: "Just as you need to talk to your employer, so the TUC must talk to the elected government of the country... Gillian Shephard has rightly asked for our help to boost the take-up of the Investors in People standard." Mr Monks added that the TUC had struck an agreement with the Federation of Small Businesses to hold talks on training, consultancies, holidays and part-time working.

Also high on the TUC's agenda is a recruitment drive designed to unite the disaffected, uninterested and the young who have displayed ignorance over union matters. Mr Monks said inspiration could be drawn from the United States where unions have mounted membership drives. He said: "We need to develop new services to meet new needs. We need to set aside old rivalries - between unions and within unions."

Research published yesterday by the TUC showed that five million workers in Britain were not in unions but wanted unions to act on their behalf.



Monks: "Unions must be part of the solution"

Mr Monks said: "There are companies that would kill for that sort of market."

Labour yesterday reaffirmed its pledge to restore union recognition at the Government's intelligence centre, GCHQ. But the party also made clear that Labour would recognise the in-house association, the GCHQ Staff Federation, if it managed to secure membership of over half the workforce.

The move is expected to anger the TUC-affiliated civil service unions which have been banned at GCHQ since 1984. They were hoping that a Labour government would ensure that the Staff Federation, which was set up by Margaret Thatcher's instructions after the other unions were banned, would not receive recognition.

Peter Hain, Shadow Employment Minister, made clear that the affiliated unions would immediately be recognised for representation, dispute resolution and bargaining. "Labour sees no incompatibility between trade union membership and national security. The pernicious 13-year Tory ban will end. No threshold, no ifs, no buts."

At a TUC fringe meeting, Mr Hain clarified the position on the Staff Federation by saying that it was not Labour's responsibility to organise unions. But if the Staff Federation secured approval from the Government's trade union certification officer that it was independent it would be eligible for recognition if it received over half the staff.

Under Labour's new industrial policy, unions can only achieve recognition if they ballot the workforce or more than 50 per cent of staff are already members.



Bill Morris, left, in conversation with TGWU officer Ray Collins yesterday

Morris cautions against rush to single currency

By JILL SHERMAN

BILL MORRIS, General Secretary of the TGWU, urged the union movement yesterday to pull back from its strong endorsement of a single European currency.

Mr Morris said that it was not politically prudent for the trade union movement to be ahead of the political movement over monetary union. He highlighted the increasing divisions within the TUC over its support for a single currency.

At the earliest opportunity, and said that the desire "shouldn't be driven by a small and very cosy relationship with the Bank of England".

His speech, at a European fringe meeting, comes amid growing political and trade union divisions over monetary union. Peter Shore, the Eurosceptic Labour MP, urged the TUC to reject the "dangerous recommendation" of endorsing entry in the first round of monetary union. Labour's left

wing, led by Ken Livingstone, Labour MP for Brent East, is preparing for a fresh attack on a single currency at a fringe meeting today.

Mr Morris said there need to be a far greater debate over currency convergence before any steps are taken and that most people were poorly informed. He said there should also be concern over sovereignty within Europe and that this was an area in which the Eurosceptics deserved some respect.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thatcher to help in election campaign

Baroness Thatcher has met Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, to discuss ways in which she can help the Tories to win a sixth general election victory. Conservative Central Office believes her strength lies in boosting jaded party workers rather than wooing wavering voters back to the fold.

Lady Thatcher, who has been a vocal critic of some of John Major's domestic and foreign policies, has offered to tour the country during the campaign, concentrating on visiting the constituencies of old friends and marginal seats. She will concentrate on photo opportunities and meeting party activists rather than giving rallying speeches.

Blair pledges devolution

Tony Blair last night countered suggestions that he had gone cool on the idea of devolution, and pledged to introduce a Scottish parliament with wide powers. Seeking to counter recent confusion over Labour's plans for a referendum, Mr Blair, speaking in Aberdeen, argued that only Labour could bring a parliament to Scotland. John Major, also on the campaign trail, in Hereford, reaffirmed his aim of a 20p standard rate of income tax. Letters, page 19

Carlisle to retire

John Carlisle, an outspoken right-wing critic of John Major, yesterday became the 57th sitting Tory MP to announce that he would retire from the Commons at the general election. Mr Carlisle, 54, told his Luton North constituency party that his decision was personal and that he wished to "pursue other interests". He had a majority of 13,004 over Labour at the last election but boundary changes have turned it into a marginal.

Paisley threatens to quit

The Reverend Ian Paisley, the leader of the Democratic Unionists, threatened yesterday to withdraw from the multi-party talks at Stormont unless the fringe loyalist parties are expelled. In a "notice of indictment" to George Mitchell, talks chairman, the DUP accused the parties of breaching the principles of non-violence when they refused to condemn death threats against two militant loyalists by the terrorist leadership.

Heathrow cocaine haul

A Customs and Excise dog, a springer spaniel called Jasper, last night uncovered 180kg of high-grade cocaine with an estimated street value of £30 million in the biggest haul of illicit drugs at Heathrow airport. The find was made on a routine check among a cargo of flowers in the hold of a British Airways jumbo jet that had flown from Bogota, the Colombian capital. Further searches of the plane were continuing. The airline refused to comment.

Poppy appeal for £1

The Royal British Legion has asked supporters to contribute £1 each to this year's Poppy Appeal. A rapidly rising number of veterans and widows are seeking help and the legion spends almost £25 million a year on its benevolent work. Michael Vernon-Powell, the legion's head of fundraising, said: "This year, more than ever, we need people to dig deep into their pockets."

Man dies in house blast

Police began a murder inquiry yesterday after a man was killed by an explosion that destroyed a four-storey terrace house in west London and left screaming occupants trapped by flames. Last night a young man and woman who leapt from the building were in a critical condition in hospital with severe burns. Seven hours after the blast, in Ealing, detectives arrested a middle-aged man.

Red bus at end of road

The red bus that has become an international symbol of Britain is to be phased out within five years, London Transport said yesterday. After 40 years of service, London's open-backed Routemaster bus is likely to be replaced by a fleet of front-entrance vehicles. An LT spokesman said the existing fleet had been built to last 17 years and was virtually at the end of its working life.

Regiment's royal visitor

The Queen of Denmark visited Britain yesterday to carry out official duties as allied Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment in Kent. Queen Margrethe II was visiting the regiment for the first time since her appointment in 1992. She is now the regiment's only royal patron after the divorce of Diana, Princess of Wales and her subsequent resignation as Colonel-in-Chief.

78-year-old rescues two

Essex Havard who, despite being 78, still holds a current lifesaving certificate and keeps fit by running and swimming, rescued Robin Howard, 68, a clergyman, and his friend Brian Dodd, 70, after their dinghy capsized in Newport Bay, Pembrokeshire. Unable to raise a crew, Mr Harvard, assisted by an unnamed holidaymaker, launched the local lifeboat and brought the two men ashore.

Comrades find themselves at the Blackpool Crossroads

WHAT John Monks, the TUC's reform-minded General Secretary, actually told the opening of the TUC conference yesterday was: "Trade unionism is at a crossroads." But what he really meant to say was, "Trade unionism is Crossroads", the TUC being another long-running soap opera that is stuck in the same Seventies time warp as that strangely eventual Midlands motel.

Monks himself is Meg Richardson, the fair-minded, forward-thinking Crossroads boss, constantly stammering "What? Who? When? Why? Where?" at each new crisis created by some old-guard union leader who has shot off his mouth about strikes, arbitration, minimum

wages, or the cut of Tony Blair's jib. As with Mrs Richardson, chaos and drama surround Monks.

Just look around the conference hall in Blackpool's Winter Gardens and you can recognise the rest of the Crossroads cast, each with several understudies ready to step onto the stage if required. Over there is Sandy, Meg's embittered, wheelchair-bound son, who feels he has been dealt a raw deal and tries to make sure nobody stops hearing about it. There are plenty of well-intentioned Bennies and quite a few Dianes, who disappear from the scene for years and then roll back, like a bad penny, into the headlines.

And for all Monks's reforming zeal,

there is never a shortage of tut-tutting Amy Turtles who wince with indignation as Monks delivers phrases like "New Unionism"; describes the five million British workers who apparently ache to join a union as hip "union wannabees"; says "we must prove we can be part of the solution, not part of the problem" and "class war rhetoric won't do"; and even - may be this was the TUC's stab at the American flavour that is creeping into British politics after the success of the US Democratic Convention - "we must ask not what our country can do for us but what we can do for

our country". Arthur "Call Me Amy" Scargill almost fainted.

Yet more American flavour came in the cuddly shape of Richard Trumka, a useful surname to remember next time you get a grim deck of letters in Scrabble. Trumka, who is secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO, America's version of the TUC, gave a speech that had all the Amy Turtles squirming. On the one hand it was more passionately left-wing than anything else they are likely to hear from a speaker this week: "If this sounds militant," Trumka told us, uttering the M-word that Monks

hates, "be assured it is just that."

On the other hand, the speech - which was delivered in the tone of a revivalist preacher and was followed by a glitz film showing newly unionised workers hugging each other with joy after discovering the glories of joining a union.

But Monks's final words to the hall were again a sober call to embrace a less confrontational future. He told them: "We don't want to preserve yesterday: we want to shape tomorrow." Why? Because Monks remembers that Britain finally grew bored with Crossroads, and TV chiefs pulled the plug on us, uttering the M-word that Monks

JOE JOSEPH

Government urged to end secrecy of offshore banks

By VALERIE ELLIOTT
WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government should take the lead and abolish the secrecy of offshore bank accounts in the British dependent territories being self-sufficient or having to receive assistance from the British taxman.

"Offshore bank secrecy, other than commercial confidentiality, can and must be abolished. To do so will not result in the economic collapse of these territories. It will allow them to flourish in their legitimate offshore business."

Addressing the 14th international symposium on economic crime at Cambridge University, Mr Bickford said one reason why the Government had been reluctant to end bank secrecy could be that the process was the main source of economy in these centres. "It may be the differ-

ence between British-dependent territories being self-sufficient or having to receive assistance from the British taxman."

To date the Government had justified the continued secrecy on the ground that a number of legal treaties compelled financial institutions to give details of illegal transactions to investigators, but Mr Bickford criticised these legal powers as weak, clumsy and with different procedures in every country.

He said that it would be a small step for Britain to take given the sacrifices that were being demanded of other Governments to control organised crime.

Caned boy wins hearing

Continued from page 1

the Government. It fails to draw up its own report and pass its opinion on the merits of the case, which may then go on to the European Court. If the boy succeeds, smacking could be outlawed in British homes, bringing it into line with many other European countries.

According to medical evidence put before the judge at the stepfather's trial, the boy, then nine, had a "series of weals on his legs and bottom which had been inflicted over a period of a week".

The boy's lawyers argue that the caning was a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights in that it amounted to inhuman and degrading treatment. The Government argues that the boy's case is "manifestly ill-

founded". The Government, it says, bears no responsibility for the conduct of the boy's stepfather, drawing a distinction between the stepfather's responsibility in schools and private individuals. Government lawyers say that although there is a liability at law for unreasonable corporal punishment, the jury had heard all the evidence and was not satisfied that the stepfather acted unreasonably.

Speaking for the first time before yesterday's hearing in Strasbourg, the boy's mother said she was astounded that the case was going ahead. She said the boy was "totally out of control" and had "run riot" since the age of two.

The 34-year-old mother of five, now married to the stepfather, said she had had no problems with her other children and that the boy's natural father had been forced to smack him too.

"Even at the age of two he would climb out of the cot and wreck the house. He would run riot. If he had toys he would break them," she said.

She had lost count of the number of times she had been called in to the boy's school because of his disruptive behaviour. Social services, educational and clinical psychologists had all been involved with him at various times.

"I think half of the problems with today's youngsters is they are not properly disciplined. They know they can get away with things. It was not like that when I was growing up or at schools," she said.

Dr Stuttard, page 8

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Plan to torture rich businessman

Jailed kidnapper plotted second abduction in cell

By RICHARD DUCE

A CONVICTED kidnapper hatched a sophisticated plan from his high-security prison cell to abduct, torture and murder a wealthy businessman in an attempt to extort £20 million, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

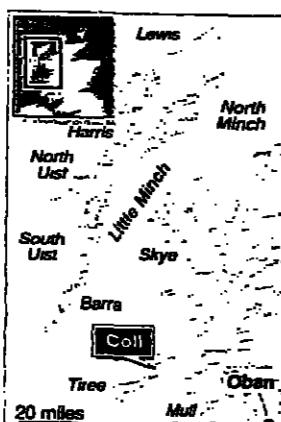
The businessman was to have been held on a remote island in the Hebrides, injected with heroin and forced to authorise money transfers, the court was told.

Then the scheme was to have the businessman killed — probably with a drug overdose — because the mastermind of the plan, Sacheverell De Houghton, had been caught before when a kidnap victim escaped.

De Houghton, 56, serving ten years for an earlier kidnap, planned to recruit professional criminals to carry out the abduction of the businessman, known only as Mr G. William Boyce for the prosecution, said. De Houghton had set in train an intricate scheme to gain the confidence of Mr G, and was to set up bogus credentials as well as bank accounts into which the ransom money could be paid.

His first kidnap victim, a dealer in Russian icons, had been lured by De Houghton's claims to have similar works of art for sale. De Houghton knew Mr G to be a collector of fine furniture and convinced him by letter that he had valuable items to sell. After De Houghton negotiated through solicitors ostensibly to buy a castle on Coll, in the Inner Hebrides, Mr G had been invited there to view the furniture. The prosecution alleges that Mr G would then have been held against his will and forced to arrange money transfers running into millions of pounds.

Mr Boyce told the court how De Houghton developed the plan over three years. It included using Everton Morrison, a former cellmate, to recruit professional criminals.



De Houghton was also devising a scheme to have himself broken out of jail to take full control of the plot after failing to negotiate parole or early release.

Morrison's first recruit met with De Houghton's disapproval and the plan began to unravel when approaches were made to find a second team. Morrison met up with what he believed to be a hardened criminal, but who turned out to be an undercover police officer known as Richard.

Police finally moved in in February this year fearing that De Houghton might have recruited an alternative gang that would murder Mr G while their covert operation was going on. Morrison was arrested at a station near his home in Thornton Heath, south London, and close to tears asked police, "How long will I get for this?" it was alleged.

De Houghton claimed that he was acting under duress from another criminal. Mr Boyce said: "He claimed he was acting under instructions because he was in fear of a violent and dangerous criminal from his prison."

From his cell De Houghton established "a whole host" of communications. He negotiated the purchase of a castle on Coll and also an alternative base to hold Mr G on an isolated estate in Cornwall. De Houghton had headed stationery printed with the two addresses. He then engaged the services of solicitors, surveyors and banks to set up a

The trial continues today.

Botham to seek libel retrial

By A STAFF REPORTER



Botham: appeal set in motion

IAN BOTHAM is to appeal and seek a retrial after losing his libel battle against Imran Khan, his lawyer said yesterday.

Botham, who with fellow cricketer Allan Lamb sought damages against the former Pakistani captain, is appealing on the grounds that the jury was misdirected during the libel action, which they lost in July leaving them with an estimated legal bill of £400,000.

Botham and Lamb sued Imran for libel, claiming that he branded them cheats and racists. But a High Court jury rejected their action after a 13-day trial.

Khurshid Robertson, from Botham's solicitors Swepstone Walsh, said: "We are appealing against the majority verdict of the jury." He said Lamb was still considering his pos-

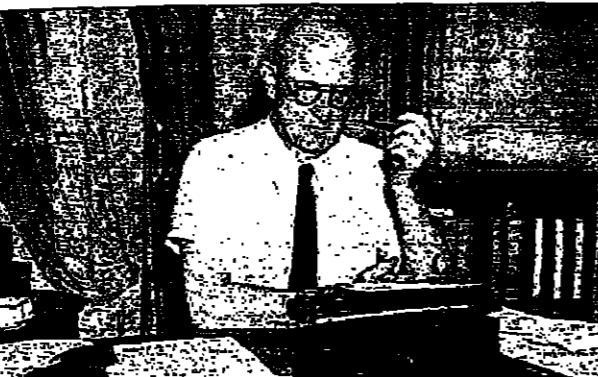
sition and would make a decision after meeting his legal team on Wednesday. Both men were expected to appeal against the verdict.

Botham has until the end of the month to lodge a challenge. He said last week: "I'm thinking of an appeal at the moment and I'll see how we go from there."

Howard Cohen, solicitor for Imran, said that he was trying to get in touch with his client, who would be vigorously fighting the appeal.

Release of wartime files 'will clear Wodehouse of treachery charge'

By RICHARD FORD



Wodehouse: made broadcasts for the Germans that cast a lasting shadow over his reputation

SECRET government files on P.G. Wodehouse, the humorist and novelist whose wartime activities led him to be branded a traitor, are to be released later this month.

The 50-year-old records are expected to clear Wodehouse of the treachery charge that has stained his reputation since the Second World War. The case against him was based on broadcasts he made to America after being interned by the Germans.

The broadcasts provoked outrage in Britain and he never returned after the war, living in America until his death in 1975 at the age of 93. In 1971 Edward Heath, then Prime Minister, refused to recommend him for a knighthood and it was only in 1975, on Harold Wilson's recommendation, that he received the honour.

The Wodehouse files, cleared for release by the Home Secretary under the

open-government initiative, were originally closed for up to 75 years on national security grounds.

Between June and August 1941, Wodehouse made five broadcasts from Germany to the United States, leading Quintin Hogg, now Lord Hailsham, to denounce him in Parliament as a traitor. Wodehouse was living in France when the Germans

interned him in 1940. After a spell in a concentration camp he and his wife were put up in hotels in Berlin and Paris. His broadcasts, in which he was introduced as "the father of the inimitable Jeeves and Wooster", were not strongly pro-German but whimsical descriptions of his internment. They prompted the *Daily Express* to dub him Herr Wodehouse and White.



Helen Mirren said that she was "dead chuffed — that's 'very pleased'."

Star Wars deal sees the force back in Britain

By DALYA ALBERG

GEORGE LUCAS, the man behind the *Star Wars* film trilogy, is to shoot his next three science fiction epics in Britain. The £1.3 billion project, the largest in cinematic history, including merchandising, will keep thousands of British actors and technicians in work.

The space-adventure movies will be filmed at the Leavesden Studios, Britain's newest film centre, built on a 300-acre aerodrome near Watford where the James Bond movie *Gold-*

eye was shot. The deal is a coup for Leavesden as the studio has not yet been fully converted, according to the *Hollywood Reporter*.

Mr Lucas, writer and director of box-office classics including *Star Wars* (1977), *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) and *Return of the Jedi* (1983), signed a financial contract with the makers of Pepsi last year.

Twenty years ago, Twentieth Century Fox gave him an \$11.5 million budget after every other studio had rejected the idea because audiences for

science fiction seemed too limited. The new films will tell the story preceding the original *Star Wars* plot, which inspired such a cult following that the videos were top-ten hits throughout 1994.

The original *Star Wars* films were made at Elstree. When the project was announced last year there had been concern in Britain that the blockbusters would be made in America.

Elstree has only recently become available again as a studio facility after a protracted legal battle. Leavesden is one of the only facilities in the world that could accommodate such a large-scale project. Up to £200 million is being spent over the next three years on developing it as a sprawling studio and entertainment complex.

The \$3 billion deal with PepsiCo is expected to make George Lucas one of the richest men in Hollywood. The agreement will cover all production costs and should leave Lucas with a substantial profit.

Mirren scoops best actress in the Emmys

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

HELEN Mirren crowned a triumphal night for British television at the fifth Emmys awards ceremony.

Receiving an award for her part in *Prime Suspect: Scent of Darkness*, she said: "Thank you so much. I'm dead chuffed. That means I'm very, very pleased" in American. Minutes later Ms Mirren said her days as the gritty detective in the *Prime Suspect* series were over. "I think you have to quit while you're ahead, and I'm definitely ahead," she said having won the award for best actress in a TV film.

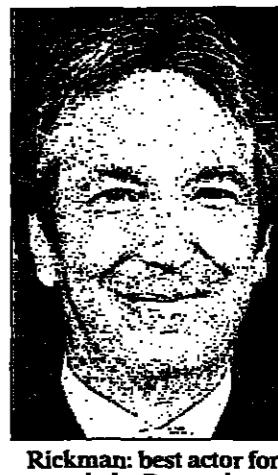
Proving that the Oscars are not the only night when British talent can bask in the Hollywood limelight, Alan Rickman, Greta Scacchi and the producer Duncan Kenworthy also won Emmys.

Rickman, named as best actor in a television film for his lead role in *Rasputin*, said he was "dead chuffed, too". Scacchi won best supporting role for *Rasputin*.

No single programme swept the board at the ceremony in Pasadena, but *ER*, the fast-paced medical drama, won the prestigious award for best drama series.

Dennis Franz, the balding detective from *NYPD Blue*, was declared the best actor in a drama series, beating stiff competition from George Clooney, who plays one of *ER*'s doctors.

Fraser, the series about an arrogant psychiatrist, won the best comedy series Emmy, and the actor Rip Torn won a prize for his role

Rickman: best actor for role in *Rasputin*

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Runcie's fear that Charles has 'given up' on the Church reflects a lifetime of doubt and questioning

Prince has searched his soul for the truth of faith

BY ALAN HAMILTON

HAD the Prince of Wales been born in an earlier age, he might well have been burnt at the stake as a heretic. The probable next Supreme Governor of the Church of England has upset traditionalists by indulging in adultery and divorce. But he upsets them at a deeper level, too: he refuses to accept that religion is necessarily the same thing as faith.

He was christened in the music room of Buckingham Palace in 1948 by the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Geoffrey Fisher, who doubtless thought that the child would grow up to be as unquestioning of the Anglican faith as his mother. However, the child's natural intelligence and capacity for introspection ensured that he was destined to take nothing for granted.

Unhappy in the breezy outdoor pursuits ethos of Gordonstoun, an institution he regarded as bordering on the pagan, he sought and found solace in the school



Van der Post urged Prince to retire

chapel. But in letters home he complained that the building, used also for film shows or games in wet weather, "has no atmosphere of the mysterious a church gives one".

Teachers at the Scottish boarding school, founded by a refugee from Nazi Germany who did not list introspection among the core subjects to be taught to the young elite, noticed that Charles was much more curious than his contemporaries to learn about the authority of the Bible and the origin of the Gospels.

His schooling coincided not only with the freewheeling Sixties but with a period of intense self-doubt within the Anglican Church. Dr John Robinson had just published *Honest To God*, challenging many accepted Anglican precepts; and Mervyn Stockwood, Bishop of Southwark, dressed in purple tie rather than dog collar, arrived at Gordonstoun to challenge the pupils' views of the English

national religion. The Prince took his confirmation seriously at the age of 16, having been schooled in the faith by Robin Woods, Dean of Windsor, who found him unusually interested in the matter.

During his two-term overseas schooling at Geelong Grammar School in Melbourne, the Prince had

another formative experience when he joined a school trip to Papua New Guinea. The party visited an Anglican mission where native Papuans had built a crude cathedral and thrown themselves enthusiastically into worship of the white man's religion. Charles noted in his diary: "Everyone was so eager to take part in the services and the singing was almost deafening. One felt it might almost be the original Church."

During his three years at Cambridge, the Prince had much ecclesiastical dissent poured into his receptive ear, not least from a series of lectures he attended at nearby Great St Mary's church, organised by its then vicar, Hugh Montefiore. But his biggest influence was the Rev Harry Williams, Dean of Chapel at Trinity College, who led him through an examination of religious faith as seen through the eyes of Freud and Jung. "I always thought he was a deep person, that he wasn't taken in by the surfaces



The young Prince arriving at Gordonstoun, an institution he regarded as bordering on the pagan

of life," Williams later wrote. Whilst at Cambridge, the Prince's search for the inner truth led him to correspond at length with Dr Stockwood again. They explored religion and parapsychology which, in an earlier time, would have been regarded as consorting with the Devil. Charles urged the University of Wales, of which he is Chancellor, to establish the Arthur Koestler chair of parapsychology; they refused, and it went to Edinburgh.

After Cambridge, the Prince fell under the spell of Laurens

van der Post, who persuaded Charles that there was a whole dimension missing from his life. Van der Post's detractors regarded him at best as a plausible self-publicist and at worst a charlatan, but the Prince was completely won over by the old man's theories of the world of the spirit and man's place in the nature, as practised by the bushmen of the Kalahari.

Van der Post urged Charles to give up all his official duties for a spell and retire into contemplation, but the dutiful Prince refused. By this time, however, he was strongly at odds with conventional churchmen anxious to know more of Buddhism and Hinduism, and shaping in his mind a concept of the soul.

He began to make philosophical speeches, some of which were lost on his audience: "I feel that deep in the soul of mankind there is a reflection as on the surface of a mirror", left his listeners in a backwoods Canadian town a mite bemused. His ideas became more refined. When setting up his Institute of Architecture in 1992, he told its director that he wanted its students taught reverence — "reverence for the landscape and the soil, for the human spirit".

The Prince, still a regular

communicant of the Church of England who prays on his knees nightly, has called for a greater understanding of Islam.

He has said Mass with Pope John Paul in his private chapel at the Vatican, has cautioned Western civilisation not to abandon spirituality in its relentless quest for a better computer chip and regards Henry VIII's split from Rome as a matter of politics which had little to do with faith.

In his 1994 television interview with Jonathan Dimbleby, the Prince said: "I personally would rather see [the title] as Defender of Faith, not the Faith... I would much rather it was seen as defending faith itself, which is so often under threat in our day, where the whole concept of faith itself or anything beyond this existence, beyond life itself, is considered almost old-fashioned and irrelevant."

His staff hastened to point out that the Prince was making a personal statement of faith and was not suggesting the disestablishment of the Church of England. The Prince's own view is that disestablishment is a matter for the Church, not the Crown. He also believes that faith is a far more important matter than the politics of religion.

Leading article, page 19

How Mitre and Crown often bump heads

■ The relationship between monarch and Archbishop of Canterbury has not always been what it should be, Ruth Gledhill writes



ARCHBISHOPS are chosen with their future relationship with the monarch in mind, but things have not always gone as smoothly as was hoped, with animosity on occasions being mutual.

Archbishops of Canterbury have had complex relationships with the monarchy, encompassing public and private roles. In 1936, Archbishop Cosmo Lang, a Presbyterian by birth and a close friend of Queen Mary, played a central role in the abdication of Edward VIII.

Lang was suspected of having conspired to bring about the abdication, and publicly criticised the King for putting his love for Wallis Simpson before his country. He was felt to be kicking a man when he was down and made himself even more unpopular with the Royal Family and the country by remarks during the Second World War that were thought to be pro-German.

Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop from 1945 to 1961, was accused of putting pressure on Princess Margaret to refuse to marry the man she loved, Group Captain Peter Townsend, although this was later denied.

According to Professor Owen Chadwick, the leading church historian, there have been since Queen Victoria's time three elements to the Archbishop of Canterbury's relationship with the monarch. "One thing is the formal relationship between the monarch as Supreme Governor of the Church and the Archbishop as ecclesiastical head of the Church. This formal and constitutional relationship does not depend on the personal relationship between the two people concerned."

"Secondly, since the time of Queen Victoria, the Crown has generally been helped by the Archbishop's advice when the Prime Minister recommends people for high office in the Church."

Thirdly, there is a personal

and private relationship. The Dean of Windsor and the Archbishop of Canterbury have been since the time of Victoria personal chaplains to the monarch. The Archbishop does things like preparing the children for confirmation and baptising them."

He said this relationship had developed because of Queen Victoria's close friendship with Archbishop Archibald Tait, who served at Canterbury from 1868 to 1883. Victoria was moved that within a month, all but two of his seven children died of scarlet fever. Tait became the first Archbishop of modern times to be personally close to the Sovereign.

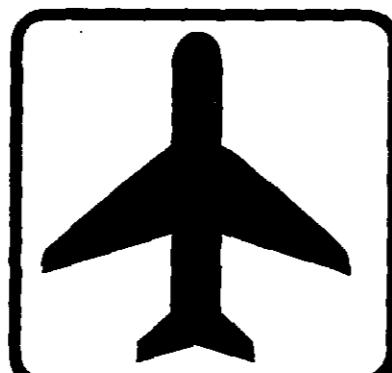
Randall Davidson, who became Archbishop in 1903, after Queen Victoria's death, married Tait's daughter and was enormously helpful to Victoria when he was Dean of Windsor. He went on to develop an equally close relationship with Edward VII.

Archbishop William Temple, who served during the Second World War, was well-liked by the monarchy but his influence was limited because of the brevity of his time at Lambeth, where he was for three years.

Archbishop Michael Ramsey, at Lambeth from 1961 to 1974, had a special relationship with the present monarch that developed from when he was Bishop of Durham and therefore had the right to stand at her side during the Coronation. The Queen was reportedly enchanted by his huge bushy eyebrows and his equally large personality, although their friendship was slightly limited by the difficulty he experienced in talking about anything other than theology.

Archbishop Donald Coggan, who succeeded him, was the kind of chaplain the Royal Family loves, because of his direct, straightforward faith and his ability to explain himself well.

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Parents withdraw pupils over cost of disruptive boy

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS removed more than half the pupils from a school yesterday in protest at the return of a disruptive ten-year-old over whom teachers came close to striking last week.

Thirty families began the boycott at Manton Junior School in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, soon after the escorted arrival of Matthew Wilson. More than 50 other parents withdrew their children at lunchtime. Governors have twice refused to back the head teacher and expel Matthew for unruly behaviour.

The parents fear that the cost of an extra teacher, £14,000, to educate Matthew in isolation — in a deal to prevent teachers walking out — will damage their children's education. About 150 parents have signed a petition for his permanent removal. Many are threatening not to return their children tomorrow.

One mother said: "That



Matthew Wilson arriving at school yesterday

money is coming out of the budget for all the other children and it is our children that are losing out again because he cannot behave himself. We lost a teacher last year through redundancy but they have found £14,000 to get Matthew his

own teacher, which is a bit much."

Governors said they had no choice but to spend the money because the school would have to close if the seven teachers in the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers went on strike. Nottinghamshire County Council has allowed the school to go into the red to fund an extra teacher but will not give it any extra cash.

Caroline Morrison, a parent-governor, said: "The parents are saying they will keep their children away from school while Matthew is having one-to-one teaching. But we do not want one-to-one teaching for Matthew; the NASUWT has pushed us into this because they would not accept him back into the school otherwise."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT, said he understood the concerns of parents who had

withheld their children. "The solution to the problem posed by the continued presence of the pupil in question at the school is very far from ideal. This was the only way of keeping the school open. I think the parents are right to ask the questions they have."

A county spokesman said that the head teacher was considering holding a meeting of parents if the boycott contin-

ued. Matthew, accused by teachers of bullying other children and threatening them, once with a baseball bat, was allowed back provided he agreed to a contract of good behaviour.

He arrived with his teacher after lessons had started yesterday and left just before lunchtime to avoid other pupils and was said to have had a quiet and productive day.

Pamela Cliffe, his mother, said she had agreed to the special arrangements only to prevent a strike closing the 190-pupil school. She denied that Matthew was uncontrollable.

Steven Williams, her solicitor, said she remained unhappy about his segregation. "If she had refused the isolation package there would have been a strike and everyone

would have blamed it on her. She is now upset that he is being given no incentive to improve his behaviour."

He added: "Not being allowed to play with other kids is a hell of a punishment for a ten-year-old. It's not going to develop his social skills."

□ A five-year-old boy returned to school yesterday after being tested for the Aids virus and hepatitis B. He had

stabbed himself four times in the hands with needles discarded by drug addicts near his home in Grantham, Lincolnshire.

The results of the tests will be known in three months. His school's headmaster said other parents had been supportive of the boy's family and denied reports that some feared he could infect their children if allowed back.



Class action: parents removing their children from Manton Junior School yesterday in protest at the £14,000 being spent on a pupil in isolation

Credit trail led Alaska rangers to dead hiker

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

ALASKAN park rangers used a dead British hiker's credit cards to track him to the remote ravine where his body lay.

David Harrison, 31, head of mathematics at Shrewsbury School in Shropshire, was reported missing when he failed to return home after a trip to the Wrangell-St Elias National Park and Preserve.

His worried father Peter contacted park rangers on September 2 but did not know where his son, a qualified and experienced climber, had gone in the vast state.

However, the search area was narrowed when Mark Twells, a fellow teacher and head of information technology at the school, searched Mr Harrison's room, found which maps he had bought and e-mailed Alaskan police with the details. Tim Saskowsky, the investigating ranger, compared the list with maps Mr Harrison left at a friend's home in Anchorage, and eliminated all but two areas in the 5.2 million hectare park.

A credit card check showed that Mr Harrison had also bought a guide book and used a bus from a company based in Glenallen which ferries hikers to several trailheads.

"After several days of intensive investigative work, the search area for this case was limited from a state-wide search, to a park-wide search and, finally, to a particular drainage," a Wrangell-St Elias spokesman said. "Through a series of interviews and phone calls, Tim was able to narrow the search before we brought in any ground crews."

Two rangers finally began the search over difficult terrain on a 45-mile trek in Rock Creek last Friday. They found Mr Harrison's tent within three hours but could not get into an inaccessible gorge and called in a helicopter.

His body was seen the next day at the bottom of a 300ft ravine and was recovered on Sunday. He is thought to have fallen while hiking alone.

Ted Maidment, Headmaster of Shrewsbury School, paid tribute to his colleague, a bachelor and Cambridge first class mathematics graduate who took up his position at the school after teaching at Tonbridge School in Kent and Clifton College, Bristol.

"He was an excellent teacher and a very highly qualified climber," Mr Maidment said.

"There is a tremendous sense of sadness at his loss. He was very popular with the boys and we only realised something was wrong when he did not come back on August 29 to run a Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award trip to the Lake District. I have been in close contact with his father and had to tell the boys that he was missing at chapel on Sunday."

Jail inquiry into prisoner's poems

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A PRISON service inquiry began last night into how disturbing verses by Charles Bronson, one of Britain's most violent prisoners, were published in a men's magazine.

Five pages of the work of Bronson, who held three Iraqi hostage at Knifepoint in Belmarsh jail at the weekend, are printed in the magazine. Under the headline "King of the Road: extracts from the diary of a psychopath", Bronson pours out his feelings, including a fantasy about trying to kill a man.

One poem, entitled *The Night I Tried to Kill*

Corrections

□ Dr David Wheelwright, son of the distinguished fabric designer John Sylvester Wheelwright, did not, contrary to a report (August 29), die during service with the RAF. He is alive and well and swimming 25 lengths every morning. We apologise for the error.

□ Jonathan Stone is unrelated to Mr Morris Leigh, whose will was reported on September 5, and is not a beneficiary of the estate.

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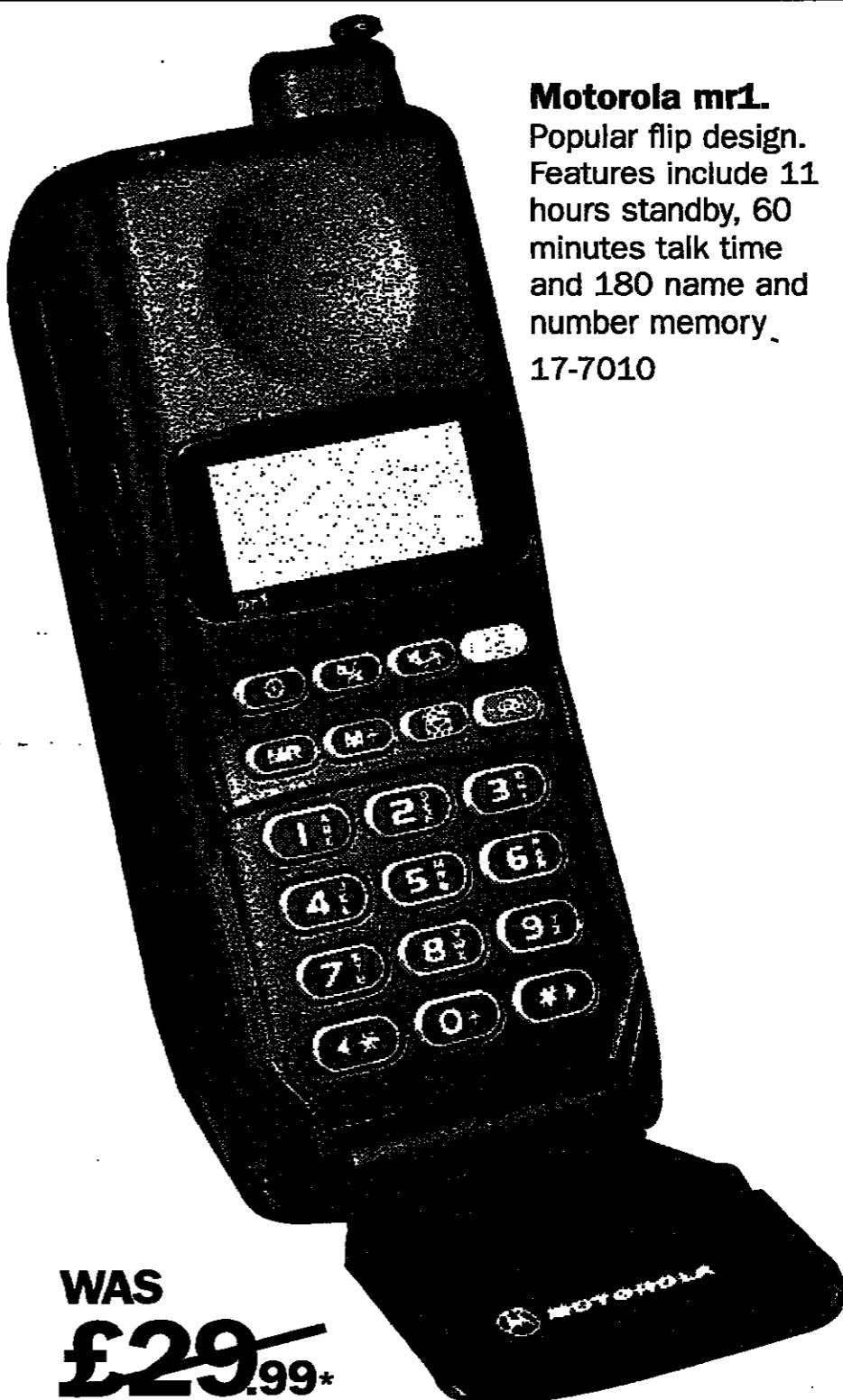
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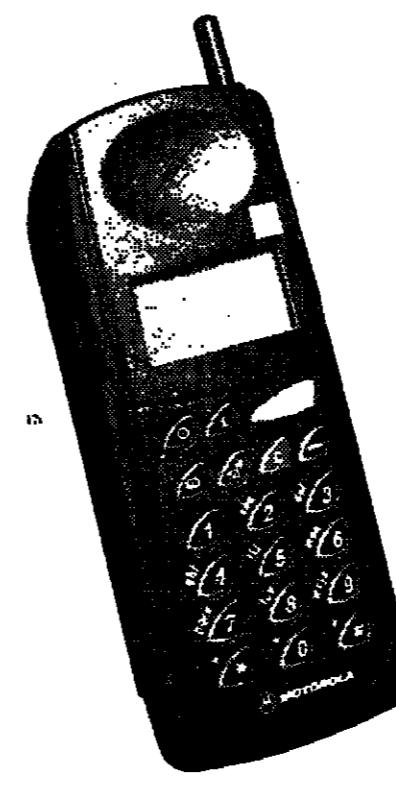
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British Association: President says drive for financial efficiency will kill golden goose of creativity

Inventive research 'is being stifled by ignorant managers'

REPORTS BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR, AND NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT



Sir Ronald: said culture of research was delicate

UNIVERSITY research is in danger of being stripped of its originality and spontaneity by ignorant and insensitive attempts to manage it, the President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science warned its annual meeting in Birmingham yesterday.

Sir Ronald Oxburgh, rector of the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, said that the pressure on academic staff to do research — whether or not they were any good at it — and the drive to make research accountable were threatening creativity. "Second-rate university research done to order, by people who have no real aptitude or enthusiasm for it, is a waste of time, money and paper," he said. But the methods used by the funding councils to assess universities was driving them towards a system in which there was

the risk of changing the character of the work and losing its greatest strength — its spontaneity. "Ultimately the best university research can bring insights and discoveries in areas that were previously unsuspected and which would not have been the choice of panels of experts, however carefully selected," Sir Ronald said. "The researchers will follow the money and if it is clear that money is available only for those who complete well-defined projects to time, that is exactly what will happen: the work will become thoroughly competent, and thoroughly predictable. That would be a major loss."

"We must trust some of our most gifted research workers work on what they see as most promising and to justify their decisions retrospectively when the work is done. Even the best foresight panel in the world is going to be unlikely to identify the one coming in from left field, the unexpected: penicillin or BSE," he said.

"Look at the laser, for example. When it was invented people sat around and said, 'is there ever going to be a conceivable application of this curious phenomenon? Who cares about coherent beams of light?'

Sir Ronald said the university system was efficient in producing trained people and in carrying out research. A recent study by the President of the Japanese Institute for Physical and Chemical Research had concluded that, in certain fields, including physics, Britain was twice as cost-effective as other major countries. In addition, he said, Britain produced as many trained research workers with PhDs as the US, with a population one fifth as large and only one tenth as much spent on research.

Chronic long-term stress may have different effects, however. Students facing exams have been shown to suffer more colds and have lowered immune function.

He added: "We must avoid exaggerating or even inventing harmful consequences of everyday stressors, but remain alive to the possibility that severe and chronic stress may well have more serious effects on both the immune system and physical health."

Short-term stress can be good for you

caused by the "fight or flight" response of the hormone system to stress.

"Most of us nowadays seldom encounter wild animals on the savannah, but the same physiological systems are to a degree triggered by simple laboratory stressors such as being asked to do mental arithmetic, make a speech, or play a computer game," he said.

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He added: "We must avoid exaggerating or even inventing harmful consequences of everyday stressors, but remain alive to the possibility that severe and chronic stress may well have more serious effects on both the immune system and physical health."

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Raising money: Katharine Willson, of the Magnetic Penny Society, with a pyramid of magnetically levitated pennies at the science festival yesterday. The system, developed by Nabeel Shirazee for Magnetic Suspensions Ltd, uses powerful permanent magnets supplemented by electromagnets controlled by electronic circuits. The movement of the levitated mass is

tracked and the current constantly adjusted to correct any movement, a system that means large masses can be levitated with very modest currents. Barry Jones, managing director of the company, which is based in the Isle of Man, says that among the first products will be a geographical globe for an American company. In industry the system could be used for

painting objects automatically and all over in one pass. Plane-makers could use it to support model aircraft in wind tunnels. The display at Birmingham was put on with the Magic Penny Society, which raises money for cancer care. Professor Robin Willson, the society's organiser, said the applications of the principle were limited only by the imagination.



Dr Cantrill with 100 million-year-old fern fossils

When Antarctica was a verdant garden

VAST forests and rivers covered Antarctica 100 million years ago, scientists have discovered.

Researchers with the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge believe the climate was similar to modern Britain's. The findings, from leaf and wood fossils unearthed over hundreds of square miles in the Antarctic, give clues as to how Antarctica might look in a few hundred years, should pollution accelerate the greenhouse effect. The findings were presented at the British Association's annual meeting.

Dr David Cantrill, of the

survey, said yesterday that Antarctica had been a verdant place of forests and ferns in which vegetarian dinosaurs lived, and probably small mammals. "It was quite a nice Garden of Eden. The conditions are not ideal for preserving dinosaur remains but one has been found."

Antarctica had been part of a super-continent called Gondwana, which had begun breaking up, producing today's continents. Its weather system had not yet been cut off from warm water from the Equator, Dr Cantrill said.

AS MANY as a fifth of some bird species are killed on the roads each year, the association was told.

Chris Mead, of the British Ecological Society, said that studies in Britain and abroad indicated that up to 60 million birds, including chaffinches, whitethroats, blackbirds, little owls and barn owls, have become road death statistics.

"It's inevitable that populations will go down," he said. "Whitethroats go from one hedge to another across a road as do chaffinches. Blackbirds are appalling. One male blackbird sees another, they fly low and are both wiped out." Mr Mead called for stricter speed limits and traffic calming on country A roads in vulnerable areas.

He said that 100 British species dominated the list, many of which fed or nested in hedges near roads. Birds were most at risk on suburban roads and A roads rather than dual carriageways or motorways because these were too wide or too noisy to cross.

Mr Mead said that speed was as much to blame as the volume of traffic. "We are cruising over the crucial level of 45 to 50 mph, the speeds at which you rarely kill a bird."

A study in Norfolk found that of 48 barn owls, nine were killed on the roads after six

months. Forty per cent of young swallows and 5 per cent of adults die on the roads. Mr Mead said that surveys of other species, including house sparrows, whose numbers have fallen by a third in the past 30 years, showed a similar death rate on the roads.

"It's inevitable that populations will go down," he said. "Whitethroats go from one hedge to another across a road as do chaffinches. Blackbirds are appalling. One male blackbird sees another, they fly low and are both wiped out." Mr Mead called for stricter speed limits and traffic calming on country A roads in vulnerable areas.

Studies from the Netherlands also showed that too many roads in an area caused animals to in-breed. Populations of frogs, separated by roads and unable to cross them to breed, became more vulnerable to disease after several generations.

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A drug that inhibits the production of nitric oxide in the body could save thousands of lives every year. Professor Salvador Moncada of University College London told the meeting.

The drug, being developed by Glaxo Wellcome, would treat septic shock, which often follows hospital treatment.

About 200,000 cases a year are recorded, of which half prove fatal. During septic shock the body mobilises nitric oxide, a gas found in car exhausts, to fight infection, but in so doing raises the blood pressure, complicating treatment. The drug lowers the pressure.

IN BRIEFS

Asians give up corner shops

The Asian corner shop, robust repository of Thatcherite values, could soon close due to a lack of interest from the next generation.

Few Asian shopkeepers want their children to carry on the business, aiming them instead at professions such as law, medicine and accountancy. It seems that in a single generation the British disdain for trade has infected these entrepreneurs, according to a survey by the Policy Studies Institute.

Dr Tariq Modood of the PSI suggested the Asians had used small businesses as a way of ensuring their children got a good education.

Success with Aids vaccine

A new vaccine against Aids has shown promising results in animal trials. Seven macaque monkeys treated with the vaccine showed evidence that they had been protected against infection with SVIV, the monkey equivalent of HIV, the Aids virus.

In four of the animals the protection was total, in the others it was 90 per cent. Professor Thomas Lehrer of Guy's and St Thomas' hospitals told the meeting. The indications were that protection would last for six months or so, he said. It could be that in human volunteers: "All parts of the vaccine have been tested and lack toxicity."

Drug to fight septic shock

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Physically chastising a child may cause harm far worse than bruises

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

the most tragic case I have come across was one where the damage was physical.

Seldom, as Henry Hamilton Bailey, author of *Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery*, said, does nature call attention to a deep-seated abnormality in the skin, but in the lower back it sometimes does. In some cases of spina bifida occulta the evidence that there is an abnormality of the spine can be spotted by a quick look at the back, because the deformity is betrayed by a patch of hair over the lower back, or a dimple in the skin. In spina bifida occulta the bony covering of a

spinal cord is incomplete as the vertebral arteries have failed to unite.

Mr Hamilton Bailey's teaching was brought home to me a year or two ago when I was asked to see a middle-aged man whose life had been ravaged by various psychological disasters. The patient told me that he had been a normal cheerful prep-school boy until his headmaster, whose aim was unsure, beat him. One savage stroke of the cane fell across the small of his back rather than on his bottom and thereafter my patient was incontinent.

All my patient's personality

problems started from this time as his contemporaries were shocked that he was such a wimp that he started bedwetting after being beaten. He was rejected by the pack at his public school and left early. Thereafter his life followed a downhill path.

The man was a perfect example of what Mr Hamilton Bailey had described: nature had signalled that he had a disability of his spinal column. My patient had a patch of thick hair, as thick as that on a child's scalp, easily visible over his lower back, a sure sign of a spina bifida occulta and therefore of an only partially protected spinal cord.

The savage, casual, ill-directed swipes with the headmaster's cane had damaged the cord and given the boy a weak urinary and anal sphincter. His subsequent incontinence had rendered him the butt of every bully for the rest of his life.

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Captain Rob Dickinson points to the community hall at the Rorke's Drift site

towards the cost of building the community hall, were supported by men from the Royal Engineers and The Royal Regiment of Wales.

One of the patrons of Project Scholastic Acorn was Brigadier David Bromhead, Colonel of the Welsh regi-

ment, whose grandfather, Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead — portrayed by Michael Caine in the 1964 film *Zulu* — played a key role building a defensive perimeter around the African missionary station before the attack by thousands of Zulus.

He was one of 11 men to receive the VC out of the 153 British troops that withstood the fearsome Zulu attacks. Captain Rob Dickinson, of the regiment, said: "Those men were plain soldiers, facing almost certain death but by their actions they have come to represent everything that is good about being a British soldier."

كذا من الأصل

THINK YOU SHOULD HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE TO XEROX?

Dan M. Doyle
Chief Executive Officer

DANKA

George Fisher
Chairman, President & CEO
Eastman Kodak Company
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Finally, the world will have an alternative. George, what do you think?

Sincerely,

Dan

Dan Doyle
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Dan,

Let's make it happen!

Sincerely,

George

George Fisher
Chairman, President & CEO
Eastman Kodak Company

WE AGREE.



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Proposed Millennium Tower could become tallest building in Europe

Foster unveils crowning glory for London skyline

By MARCUS BINNEY

SIR Norman Foster unveiled plans yesterday for a 1,265 ft snow-white, transparent London skyscraper. The £400 million, 92-storey London Millennium Tower would be the tallest building in Europe and top the Empire State Building. The curving, highly sculptural form ushers in a new era in skyscraper design and makes towers under construction in South-East Asia appear old-fashioned. The most remarkable feature of the Foster design is its sheer transparency, with views in and out of the tower through floor-to-ceiling glass uninterrupted by columns of lift cores or heavy steel frame.

No less revolutionary is the range of mixed uses proposed for the tower, with shops, restaurants, offices, trading floors, gardens in the sky and a public viewing platform at 1,000 ft. Above that will be 12 storeys of penthouses enclosed in two glass husks. Sir Norman said: "The city of the future will be a much richer mix of uses. Not ghettos of offices or housing. Working and living in the sky will be great attractions."

The building takes the form of a gently rounded letter V, with walls continuously on the curve, a giant version of Sir Norman's Willis Faber building in Ipswich. "I did not want



Foster: wanted to create a free-flowing design

to make yet another four-square imposition on the skyline but wanted to create a much more free-flowing design," he said.

The plans have been commissioned by Trafalgar House, whose chairman, Alan Winter, said: "We hope to get planning permission in the spring and to complete construction in four years, topping out in 2000. We are in discussions with potential anchor tenants who must be on board if we are to proceed."

Peter Rees, the City's planning officer, said: "We will judge the building on its merits. We have asked for photomontages showing the tower from numerous viewpoints all over London."

The Government is expected soon to issue new guidelines for high buildings in London, but the proposed tower, on the site of the bomb-damaged Baltic Exchange, is outside the protected views — St Paul's Cathedral from the river, Greenwich, Hampstead and Richmond. English Heritage gave permission for an earlier scheme that would have reconstructed the marble-lined hall of the old exchange but was unhappy with the building above.

Sir Norman said he appreciated the much lower building heights that prevailed to the

west of the City but believed it was acceptable to add to the cluster of high buildings around the NatWest Tower.

The City Corporation is likely to welcome becoming home to Europe's most prominent building and Sir Norman's design may even, like the Lloyd's building by Sir Richard Rogers, escape a public inquiry. However, the Civil Aviation Authority says the building would have "operational implications for London City Airport and London Heathrow and as such we

would advise against it". Clean, the City of London environment group, expressed concern about security and environmental considerations. "The new tower will inevitably be a target for bombers, potentially showering glass over a wide area," it said.

The engineer who worked on the design, Tony Fitzpatrick of Ove Arup, said: "Our principal problem is sway in high winds. This is particularly sensitive with residents at the top of the building. We will limit this by inserting a 600-ton pendulum near the top."

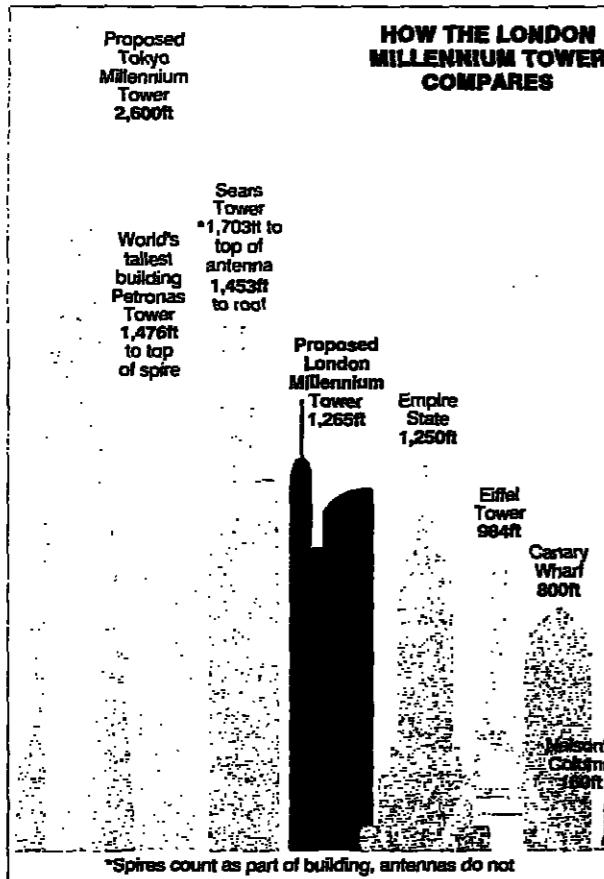
"This is a steel-frame structure but you won't be able to see what holds it up. The columns around the perimeter are very slender and 15 ft apart. We have avoided the usual massive concrete lift cores. Lift shafts are no more than holes in the floor."

To combat overheating, the architects have designed two skins of glass, well separated so that cooling air will constantly be drawn upwards.

Like Sir Norman's Hong Kong and Shanghai Tower in Hong Kong, his London tower could usher in a new era. The question is whether costs will rise to an equally record height. Sir Norman insists: "It can be built on time and on budget."

Anatole Kaletsky, page 18

Race to realise the mile-high dream



By MARCUS BINNEY

THE race to build the world's tallest building looks set to move to Europe, shifting the focus from South-East Asia, where six of the world's tallest towers are under construction.

In 1985 America had the world's ten tallest buildings but, according to recent estimates, only ten buildings of more than 20 storeys are currently under construction in the US.

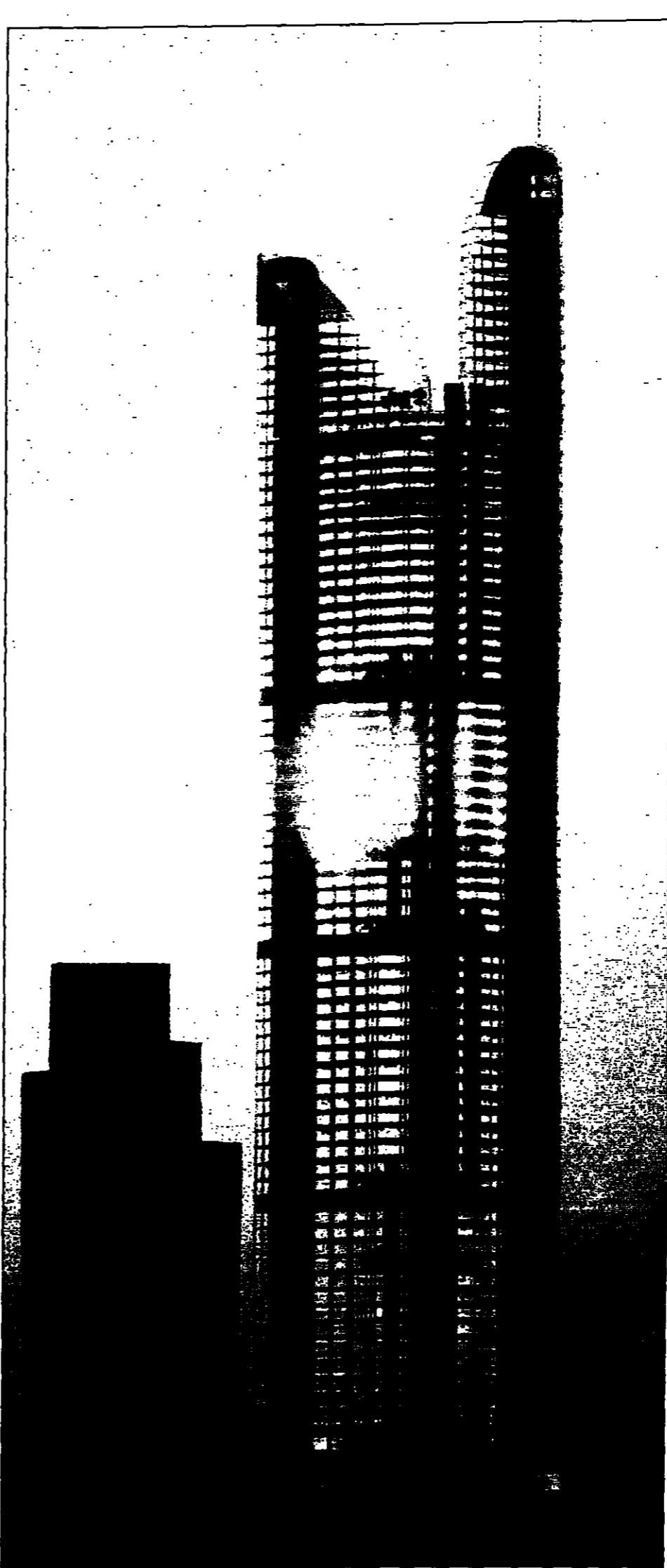
Some of the buildings have been very short-lived title-holders, most notably the Chrysler building in Manhattan, quickly eclipsed by the Empire State Building. Until recently, the 1,454 ft Sears Tower in Chicago had held the title for 21 years.

Europe's prime contender for high-rise glory was the proposed Tour Sans Fin in Paris, designed by architectural superstar Jean Nouvel and intended to rise 1,377 feet. This has been indefinitely postponed and the title has been taken by the Commerz Bank in Frankfurt, topped out last month and also designed by Sir Norman Foster.

The title for the world's tallest building is now being taken by the twin Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, designed by the Argentinian-born Cesar Pelli, who is also architect of the 800 ft tower at Canary Wharf. The Petronas Towers will be overtaken in turn by the 108-storey Kowloon Nina Tower, currently under construction in Hong Kong. The tower is being built by Nina Wang, one of the world's richest women, in honour of her husband, kidnapped five years ago and still missing. The precise height of the building is being kept a secret in case others seek to pip it by a few feet.

The Nina Tower is likely to be beaten in turn by the 114-storey, 1,500 ft Chong Qing tower in China, currently under construction, which is to have a hotel above the clouds.

Tallest of all is Foster's planned 2,600 ft Millennium Tower, designed for Tokyo Bay but yet to receive the go-ahead. In the world of dreams, Frank Lloyd Wright's mile-high tower still remains unbeaten.



A computer-generated image of Sir Norman Foster's proposed London Millennium Tower dwarfs the existing NatWest Tower

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The honeymoon with hidden extras

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

HONEYMOON couples who book a one-bedroom apartment may find they have to pay double to ensure they have the place to themselves.

Although Spanish hotel rooms and apartments must be of a minimum size, there is no law that specifies how many people should be in each room. As a result the number of people some tour operators expect to fill a room or apartment is often unrealistic. *Holiday Which?*

The magazine says: "If you travel with the tour operator Inspirations to the Port d'Alcudia apartments — recommended for honeymoons because it guarantees peace, seclusion and privacy — you'll pay £447 each for two weeks in August. But add £540 to the bill if you're not prepared to share your one-bedroom apartment." *Holiday Which?*, published by the Consumers' Association, said children

did not count towards the occupancy of a room — especially those on free or discounted child places. So a family of four booking a one-bedroom apartment that sleeps four adults would pay two adult fares, two child fares and two under-occupancy supplements. "It may be cheaper to count one or all of your children as adults and avoid under-occupancy charges," the magazine says.

Holiday companies last night rejected the criticisms. "They are completely confused about how apartment holidays work," said Alan Eook of the Federation of Tour Operators. "If you rent a villa it costs £X pounds whether there is one person in it or ten. It is the same for an apartment."

Inspirations said that its brochure clearly stated the number of people required to share the apartment at the price quoted.

Head jailed for indecent assault

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

A HEADMASTER convicted of molesting boarders at a boys' school was jailed for three years yesterday.

Robert Hay, 42, appeared for sentence at Bristol Crown Court after being convicted in July on seven charges of indecent assault. The incidents involved six boys aged nine to 12 at the school in Devon, between August 1992 and June last year.

The jury had heard how Hay, a married father of two, visited the boys' dormitories after lights out and touched them as they lay in bed. The school cannot be named for legal reasons.

Judge Bursell said there had been a breach of trust by Hay, after children had been placed in his care and security. He added that there had been no question of seduction or violence, that Hay was a man of previously exemplary character and that there was no evidence yet of trauma among the victims but, he added,

"these matters are so serious a non-custodial sentence cannot be justified".

The boys gave evidence by video link and one, nine at the time of an assault in 1992, told of how he had been "too scared to move" and had "frozen with fright" after Hay pulled down his duvet and touched his genitals. Another pupil, 12 at the time of an assault in 1995, had rung Childline for advice.

Hay, who resigned from his post last summer, insisted throughout the trial that he had done nothing indecent and had no idea why the boys had made such allegations. He claimed he was adjusting his bed clothes. Ian Pringle, for the defence, said yesterday that physically the offences were at the lower end of the scale of indecent assaults.

After the sentencing, a parent of one of the boys said: "We are desperately worried about the long-term damage a man like this could have done to our sons."

Painting prize

John Hubbard, whose most recent landscapes are inspired by the craggy west coast of Scotland, last night won the £30,000 Jerwood painting prize. He beat six other finalists, including Anthony Green and John McLean.

Price on pier

Hastings Pier, in East Sussex, is for sale for £3 million. The quarter-mile-long pier, built in 1872, has shops, a ballroom, bingo hall and amusement arcades. The pier is for sale because the present owner cannot afford to carry out restoration work.

Exhibit's bananas

An exhibit made of banana skins is to go on show at a gallery at Nottingham Trent University. Shelly Sack, a lecturer, stitched together 3,000 dried skins. Her taped interviews with the farmers who grew the fruit will play beside the exhibit.

Spear-wielding Kurds take a stab at angling

By RUSSELL JENKINS

ANGLERS on the River Lea in north London were astonished when they spotted Kurds spearing fish and barbecuing their catches on a riverbank spit. Now they say that the refugees from Saddam Hussein's regime represent a menace to their sport.

They have complained to the nice of freshwater fishing — keeping fish in nets, weighing them and releasing them unharmed — are lost on the Kurds, who, armed with spears or wooden sticks and strings,

on the spot. Perch have been spotted roasting over an open fire at Tottenham lock, and the Lea Anglers Consortium fears the Kurds will extend their menu to include other, carefully husbanded fish. Recently, carp were introduced into the river to supplement the indigenous bream, roach, perch, dace and pike.

Terry Mansbridge, consortium co-ordinator, realises the Kurds have something other than sport on their minds. "It is called survival and is perfectly understandable," he said. "Meanwhile, we sit on the bank for

when we do, we throw them back. It seems daft but it is the British way. It is a sport and we keep the fish alive to cause little distress. The Kurds stick a pole through them and roast them on spits. That is distressing."

Several years ago, consortium members asked bailiffs to stop Chinese youths turning the river into a take-away. They have also had to put up with an invasion of Chinese mitten crabs, introduced in the 1930s by ships from the Far East, emptying their bulges in the Thames. Dave Coster, of the Tottenham

not very amused to see their fish eaten on the bank. They are just as pleased to catch mitten crabs. They come as big as a man's fist."

Anglers have clashed with a family

which owns a Vietnamese restaurant

and was trawling for larger than

average fish in waters warmed by the hot-water outlets of Dungeness power station in Kent. Police were called to the dispute between the family of two adults and three children in a boat and rod anglers on a nearby beach who were fed up with them hauling in large catches. Fishery inspectors cordoned

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tom and Jodi almost certainly drowned

Tom and Jodi Loughlin, the brother and sister whose bodies were found two weeks after they went missing from a Norfolk beach during a family holiday, almost certainly drowned, a coroner said yesterday.

Tom, 4, and Jodi, 6, were at the start of their holiday at Holme next to the sea with their parents, Kevin Loughlin and Lynette Thornton, when they disappeared on August 18. Norwich district coroner, William Armstrong, opening the inquest, said a post-mortem examination showed that the probable cause of both deaths had been submersion in water.

Activists jailed

Two animal rights activists were jailed after admitting conspiring to set fire to an abattoir in Cinderford, Gloucestershire, in June. Michael Green and Melanie Arnold, both 27, left devices in lorries and buildings. Green was jailed for five years. Arnold for 3½.

Murder charge

A man has been charged with the murder of Gertrude Gray, 71, 16 years after she was stabbed to death with a knife at her home in Bradford. Robert Barracough, 31, who was 15 at the time of the incident in February 1980, was remanded in custody for four weeks.

Asbestos fine

A cloud of asbestos dust was created when workmen drilled through a ceiling at a school in Shefford, near Bedford. Magistrates at Biggleswade heard yesterday, Bedford County Council was fined £1,500 for causing a health hazard. No children were put at risk.

Contract lined up

The bus company Stagecoach has been named as the frontrunner to take over the eight-mile Isle of Wight railway line. The service, which runs from Ryde Pier to Shanklin, using old London Underground trains, is the smallest line to be sold off under rail privatisation.

'Doone' inn sale

The inn on Exmoor where R.D. Blackmore wrote *Lorna Doone* is being sold. The author stayed at the Royal Oak Inn at Withypool when he came to the area in 1866 to research his work. The pub and a two-bedroom cottage are on sale for £695,000.

Award for boy

Benjamin Marks, left brain damaged after Watford General Hospital failed to monitor his condition before his delivery in 1992, was awarded £1.5 million damages at the High Court. South West Hertfordshire Health Authority admitted negligence.

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Jodi almost
certainly
drowned**

Loughlin, who
had no such
missing from
his search during
the day, although
he had a conver-
sation with
the Indians and
the Indians told
him that he had
been captured by
the Indians in August
and was now con-
fined in a house
near the village.
He had been
there ever since.



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Volvo S40 with DSA.
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GIs manoeuvre for hooch and dirty dancing to fight the blues

THE morale of American GIs in Bosnia, packing to go home but uncertain of their future, has hit a low point. Tales of sex for sale, alcohol stills and incompetent officers have emerged from the barracks and into the public domain, as chronicled in the letters column of *Stars and Stripes*, the American forces' daily newspaper.

Rarely has an army in the field aired its grievances so comprehensively. Seldom, too, have reporters of an army newspaper been so willing to risk argument with senior officers in writing about the daily realities of a battlefield unit.

In the summer, the paper reported the discovery of a still in Oloviste Luke which made potato moonshine. Alcohol consumption has been banned on base in

The US Army's newspaper is breaking rank with stories of how sex and illicit alcohol are helping to ease the boredom for the troops in Bosnia. Roger Boyes reports

Operation Joint Endeavour — the American name for the Bosnian peacekeeping mission — but, as the paper pointed out, there are any number of ways of getting drunk. Seven soldiers have been arrested, and scores have been punished by having pay docked or being reduced in rank. Alcohol is sent through the post, is bought from peacekeeping units from other nations, or comes through Bosnian go-betweens. US soldiers on patrol often

defy standing regulations by stopping off at Bosnian shops to stock up on beer.

An army sergeant, quoted by the newspaper, edited in Darmstadt, said: "I drink here — I admit it. I'm insulted by that allow me to die for my country but won't allow me to have a beer. The military treats us like five-year-olds."

One letter-writer to the paper, Sergeant John Bailey, says: "I hear of many soldiers, non-commissioned officers and

officers — yes, I said officers, our so-called leaders — who drink."

Such open protest would be regarded as insubordination in the British Army. But the team editing *Stars and Stripes* is seeking to establish the paper as more than a puppet of the high command and as a genuine voice of ordinary soldiers. The letters also help to ease the strain of a highly political and sometimes physically dangerous deployment.

But articles this summer about the way US soldiers circumvent the rules against fraternisation with Bosnian women have raised questions about how open a modern army can be regarding morale. The general impression is that US soldiers are leading a lifestyle reminiscent

of *M.A.S.H.*, the television series about a chaotic army medical unit in Korea.

There are stories about affairs between married soldiers, brothels and pick-up joints. Seventy women soldiers have been sent home because of unexpected pregnancies. The Taszar Tavern is described in the paper as a place to find "mini-skirts, tight jeans, muscle shirts, pairs bumping and grinding and dirty dancing that would make Patrick Swayze blush."

The article drew an irate response from Lieutenant-Colonel Oscar Anderson from Camp Linda in Bosnia. "Your story," he says, "sounds as if the military chain of command condones illicit wanton sex among the ranks. I don't." He adds: "Our PX [army store] does not sell prophylac-

tics: it tried to but I had them taken off the shelf. However, I don't go around with my head in the sand. Prophylactics are issued by the aid station to anyone going out on a pass or Rest and Recreation if they ask for them."

The real problem is that an editorial policy, partly designed to ease battlefield tension, is actually causing family problems. On American army bases, wives of soldiers stationed in Bosnia have been reading about the availability of condoms and drawing their own conclusions. "It is hard enough being separated without having to read articles like these," writes a Family Support organiser from Wiesbaden in Germany. "The last six months of a deployment are the hardest."

London talks planned to bolster peace in Balkans

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN plans to host a summit of Balkan leaders and the foreign ministers of the big powers in an attempt to maintain peace in the region after this weekend's fraught elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The meeting in early December, which is not expected to be announced formally until after Parliament reconvenes next month, will be seen as Dayton Two, diplomatic sources said yesterday. It will seek fresh commitments to peace from Presidents Milosevic of Serbia, Izetbegovic of Bosnia, and Tudjman of Croatia. The two-day gathering will probably take place after a meeting of Nato foreign ministers in the first week of December, at which the alliance is expected to agree that some troops should remain in Bosnia next year to reinforce the peace process.

The summit plans emerged as Yugoslavia and Croatia formally established diplomatic relations yesterday. The move, seen in America as crucial to peace in the Balkans, will nevertheless be viewed with suspicion by the Muslim-led Bosnian Government. The Sarajevo administration fears that Serbia and Croatia have done a secret deal to carve up what remains of Bosnia between them.

Foreign ministers of the European Union, meeting in Ireland at the weekend, endorsed the idea of a two-year civilian "peace consolidation" programme in Bosnia, an idea first proposed by France.

Belgrade: Yugoslav border authorities prevented Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian ultranationalist leader, from crossing into Bosnia yesterday. Serbian nationalists claimed he was to tour Serb-held parts of Bosnia. (AP)



Military history enthusiasts from Russia and France re-enacting the battle of Borodino, 60 miles outside Moscow. Napoleon's troops, left, are attacking a regiment of General Mikhail Kutuzov's army. The battle in September 1812 brought heavy Russian losses, forcing a retreat. Moscow was occupied and in flames a week later

Rows throw Paris coalition into disarray

FROM ADAM SAGE
IN PARIS

FRANCE's ruling right-wing coalition was in disarray last night amid personality clashes, internal quarrels and widespread criticism of proposals from Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, for tax cuts and electoral reform.

The divisions were underlined by an early morning meeting between M. Juppé and another of his Gaullist movement's leading figures, the former Interior Minister, Charles Pasqua. Barely had the croissants and coffee been served than M. Pasqua walked out, saying: "We had an interview, as they say in diplomatic circles, of great

frankness." His comments came after an outbreak of sniping that left the Prime Minister weaker than ever and the ruling coalition facing accusations that it was in the process of committing electoral suicide.

Commentators said that unless the majority unites quickly around M. Juppé's beleaguered Cabinet, it will lose the 1998 legislative elections, leaving President Chirac to cohabit with a Socialist government.

With its popularity among voters at rock bottom, the Government appears to have been abandoned by its own supporters. Its difficulties are likely to increase the confidence of public sector unions, which are threatening a series

of strikes less than 12 months after they crippled France with the biggest wave of protests since 1968.

In an attempt to head off the unions, M. Juppé announced yesterday an end to the civil servants' pay freeze that was designed to ease the public debt. However, last night they seemed set to push ahead with the strike despite the olive branch.

The rows within the ruling majority have their roots in last year's presidential campaign, when the Right was split by the battle between M. Chirac and Edouard Balladur, the former Prime Minister. The wounds have been reopened by M. Juppé's inability to get to grips with

France's economic troubles — in particular, its three million unemployment total.

When the Prime Minister announced income tax cuts last week of Fr25 billion (E3 billion), designed to stimulate growth, his "allies" denounced the move as too little, too late. Alain Madelin, who was dismissed as Finance Minister last year, said: "This is not the fiscal shock that was necessary." M. Pasqua said: "The road chosen is not the right one."

M. Juppé added to his own woes by confirming yesterday that he is considering the introduction of a limited form of proportional representation that would serve to help the extreme right-wing Na-

ional Front and hamper the Socialists. The effect was to worry leading members of the centre-right UDF movement, which the Prime Minister has been trying to court. François Bayrou, the Education Minister and one of the few political heavyweights who had hitherto backed M. Juppé, rejected the idea.

Behind these policy differences lie personal ambitions excited by the prospect of M. Juppé's political demise.

M. Balladur, M. Pasqua and a series of younger figures, notably the UDF leader, François Léotard, hope to move back into the front of the political scene in the post-Juppé era, which they believe cannot be far off.

Madrid to receive panda gift

Madrid: There was jubilation in the Spanish capital yesterday after the announcement by the Chinese Government that it would shortly deliver a female giant panda to Madrid zoo. (Tunku Varadarajan writes)

The panda, called Ming-Ming, will take the place of the much-loved Chu-Lin, the 13-year-old male who died suddenly of a prostate infection at the end of April. Chu-Lin, the first giant panda to be born in captivity outside China, was the favourite attraction for zoo visitors.

Bodies in freezer

Brussels: A restaurateur and his brother were accused of murdering their wives, allegedly for being unfaithful, after police found the bodies of three women in the freezer of a Lebanese restaurant. (AFP)

Massacre trial

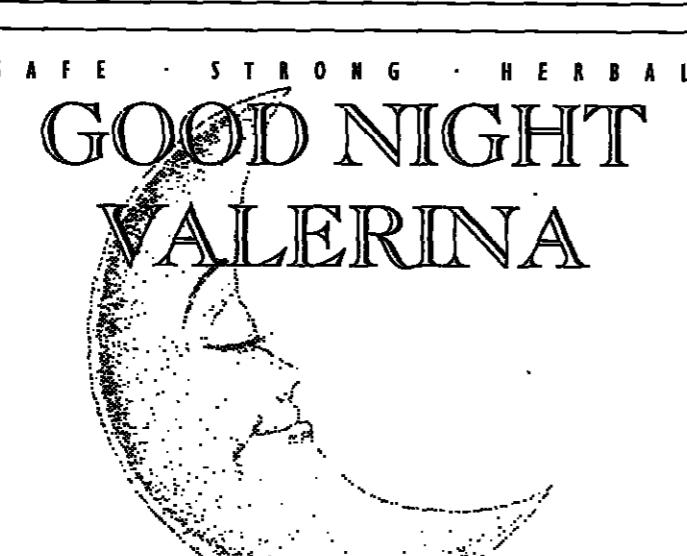
Hobart: Martin Bryant, 29, accused of Australia's Port Arthur massacre, was remanded to appear in the Supreme Court of Tasmania on September 30 to answer 35 charges of murder. (AFP)

Sanctions eased

Nairobi: African countries agreed to ease sanctions against Burundi, imposed after July's military coup, to allow the United Nations to provide some humanitarian aid. (Reuters)

Going, gone ...

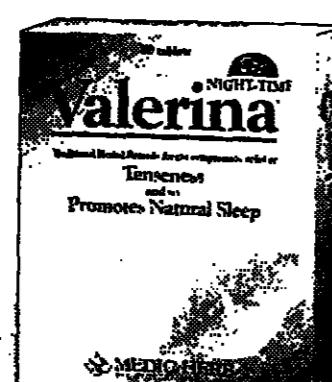
Los Angeles: A dress worn by Vivien Leigh in *Gone With the Wind* was sold for \$40,250 (E25,960) in an auction of Hollywood mementos and souvenirs that fetched a total of \$317,000. (AFP)



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Socialist rule at risk in Greece

FROM JOHN CARR
IN ATHENS

LESS than two weeks before Greece's parliamentary elections, Costas Simitis, the Prime Minister, is finding the going rougher than expected.

Believed to be an easy winner when he called early elections last month in a gamble on his popularity, he is under threat from an unexpectedly vigorous conservative opposition that could well tip his Socialists out of power on September 22.

Mr Simitis has been forced onto the defensive by Miltiades Evert, the leader of the free-market Nea Dimokratiki.

Mr Evert grabbed an early initiative by unveiling a seven-point tax-relief plan for farmers and small businesses, to come from drastic cuts in government and sweeping privatisation. Taken by surprise, the Simitis Government hastily said that it would impose no new taxes over the next four years.

Spain wants Gibraltar deal as prelude to full Nato role

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THE Spanish Government has demanded the phasing out of Gibmed, Nato's command on Gibraltar, as a precondition of Madrid's full integration with the Atlantic alliance by the end of this year.

During an official visit to Spain by Javier Solana, the Nato secretary-general, José María Aznar, the Spanish Prime Minister, promised yesterday that Spain would be ready for a role within a restructured Nato by the time of the Atlantic Council's next meeting on December 11.

Diplomatic sources indicated that, although Spain "would not concentrate unhelpfully on Gibmed" while the "nuts and bolts" of Madrid's integration into Nato's command structure were being assembled, Spain's precondition "could not be watered down".

Eduardo Serra, the Defence Minister, made it clear that full integration was incompatible with the existence of

Gibmed in its present form. But he said: "I do not expect Britain to oppose this, as I believe that Nato's strategic priorities have changed."

Senor Solana, a former Spanish Foreign Minister, appeared to support Madrid's demand. He said: "I will do my best to ensure that Spain's conditions are met. The im-



Solana: support for Spanish demands

pression I have is that the conditions for Spanish integration are likely to be achieved," Spanish diplomats and strategists believe.

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pression I have is that the conditions for Spanish integration are likely to be achieved," Spanish diplomats and strategists believe.

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French pupils show distaste for stodgy school dinners

BY ADAM SAGE

CONTEMPT for Anglo-Saxon culture has failed to prevent France from importing one of Britain's least-cherished traditions: the inedible school meal.

Once home to the culinary excellence for which the French are known, the country's school canteens have fallen prey to the British disease of cold, rubbery meat and waterlogged vegetables.

According to a recent report by the National Education General Inspectorate, "more and more pupils do not eat at school", preferring to return

to food restaurant. In Vanves, south of Paris, for instance, the Federation of Pupils' Parents has pinned up a notice on school gates condemning the "insipid, colourless, shapeless, soft, fat, gelatinous, dried out and unidentifiable food" served in canteens.

"Why do so many children leave the table still hungry?" it asks. "Why are three-quarters of the meat dishes rejected by children, who cannot tell what they are? Why are all the dishes drowned in water or completely dry?"

The answer, according to Simone Prigent, a dietitian quoted by *Le Parisien* yesterday, lies in the drive to

contracted to supply school food. "As meat is expensive, it is the first product to be sacrificed," she said. "Steaks are replaced by factory-produced meats that offer fewer proteins. This meat can be obtained with additives that enable it to absorb a maximum of water. Using this technique, a kilo of meat can be turned into 1.4 kg."

Such practices may be acceptable in Britain but they still provoke angry reactions in France, where parents tend to have fond memories of better school meals. Not only is the food of poor quality, it can also cost a lot. The meals are usually free for poor

children, but the cost of the meal is only slightly above the average. "Financial difficulties are felt through the delays in paying for meals and the number of people who abandon them during the course of the year," the inspector says.

In a television interview on Sunday, Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Party leader, denounced malnutrition in poorer areas because he said school canteens were too expensive. A 12-year-old girl interviewed by *Le Parisien* had another complaint. "I want to go to the canteen less this year because it is not very good. It is not very clean and there are often strange

الآن الأصل

Clinton's ex-partner goes to jail rather than testify

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

SUSAN McDUGAL, President Clinton's former Whitewater business partner, opted to go to prison yesterday rather than testify before a grand jury about the President's alleged procurement of an illegal loan.

McDougal surrendered herself to marshals at the Little Rock courthouse in Arkansas and was taken into custody. She was expected to be jailed for contempt of court before the day's end.

McDougal, 41, told reporters that Kenneth Starr, the Whitewater special prosecutor, and his team of investigators were interested only in destroying the President and First Lady. "They will do anything. There's nothing they won't do," she said. Mr Starr has angrily denied that allegation, accusing McDougal and her lawyer of "brazenly trying to deceive the public".

McDougal was convicted in May of illegally obtaining a \$300,000 (£192,000) federally insured loan from David Hale, a Little Rock financier. Some of that money was funnelled into the failing

Whitewater Development Corporation which she and her former husband, James, jointly owned with the Clintons.

At her trial Mr Hale claimed Mr Clinton, as Arkansas Governor, had pressured him into making that loan. The President denied that charge under oath, as did James McDougal. Susan McDougal claims Mr Starr offered her leniency if she would incriminate the Clintons but she refused and on August 20 was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

Last week Mr Starr and his prosecutors subpoenaed McDougal to testify before the Whitewater grand jury. They asked her directly whether she had discussed the loan with Mr Clinton and whether the President had perjured himself in his trial testimony. After she refused to answer, Susan Weber, a federal judge, gave her until yesterday to change her mind or face up to 18 months in prison.

In a separate development, a congressional committee gave Dick Morris, President

surrender his apparently copious records. Since he resigned over all his records on the "Filegate" scandal.

William Clinger, the committee's Republican chairman, sent Mr Morris a letter demanding all "correspondence, e-mail, memos, talking points, briefing papers, polling data, telephone records and other records" relating to the White House's highly improper acquisition of several hundred confidential FBI files on Republican officials.

Mr Clinger also ordered Mr Morris to "affirm by sworn statement" whether Sherry Rowlands, the prostitute with whom he had a year-long extramarital affair, had correctly quoted him as saying that Hillary Clinton had ordered the acquisition of the files.

Mr Morris telephoned the Clinton campaign last week to deny saying any such thing, and was said to be preparing a statement for delivery to the committee last night, but at midday yesterday it was still unclear whether he would



Susan McDougal, found guilty of loan fraud in May, faces an extra jail sentence for refusing to tell a grand jury whether the President had lied under oath

Mexico brutality plays into hands of peasant rebels

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN ATOYAC DE ALVAREZ

A MASSACRE in this poor rural town in Mexico's rugged southwest almost three decades ago set off a rebellion that lives on in the minds of many residents.

Now, in the hills outside Acapulco, a new band of guerrillas has emerged, and history threatens to repeat itself. Attacks by the rebels, killing at least 18 people in several states in the past ten days, has brought sharply into focus the reality of Mexico's deeply divided society.

Nowhere is that more apparent than on the Mexican Riviera where, a short drive from Acapulco into the desolate mountains of Guerrero state, the disco beat of the resort's night life quickly fades into the rural sounds of poverty. The badlands of Guerrero are a forgotten world of barefoot children and dirt-floor shacks, where peasant farmers earn about £1 a day tending crops of coffee and maize.

For decades, governors from Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) have relied on the state police to keep rural order. A crowd gathered in the plaza of Atoyac de Alvarez on May 18, 1967, to hear Lucio Cabanillas, a young teacher, criticise government policy. As he spoke, troops fired into the crowd, killing eight. The teacher escaped to the mountains to plan a guerrilla war.

Cabanillas and his 400 men held off the army for seven years, but in December 1974 he was captured and killed. A recent National Human Rights Commission report said that the Government "removed" at least 530 people during that period.

Since then, the lot of Guerrero's poor has worsened, even as Mexican leaders tried to launch the nation into the First World and joined the North American Free Trade Agreement with the United States and Canada. In an attempt to modernise its farm policy, the Government has cut agricultural credits, causing increased rural poverty.

In the face of mounting discontent, the Government's

response is more repression. Human rights groups claim that more than 100 peasant activists and local opposition politicians have been killed in Guerrero by the state police in the last three years.

On June 28 last year, 17 farmers were shot dead when state police ambushed the lorry carrying them to a demonstration to demand fertiliser and loans. On June 28 this year, a Mass at the site of the massacre was interrupted by 80 heavily armed masked guerrillas who proclaimed the creation of the Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR). In a five-point manifesto, the rebels vowed to avenge police killings and overthrow the Government.

Many of the several hundred mourners cheered the rebels, said Father Maximo

Gomez, a radical priest who celebrated the Mass. "It was a pleasant surprise to find out that the people at last have an army on their side," he said. In the face of government injustice, he said, armed struggle was "utterly justified" and had the overwhelming support of the rural peasantry, even if some were wary of showing it.

Others disagree, saying the EPR lacks popular support and its attacks will only bring more repression.

As thousands of troops comb the mountains of Guerrero looking for guerrillas, critics say the Government's determination to root out the rebels comes at the cost of ignoring the causes of the conflict. Many fear that increased militarisation of the countryside will only create more recruits to rebel ranks.

Hawaii gay wedding case tests US law

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A JUDGE in Hawaii must decide today whether same-sex marriages should be legal in the state. His verdict will have profound implications for the state's relations with the rest of the country, and for the American definition of marriage itself.

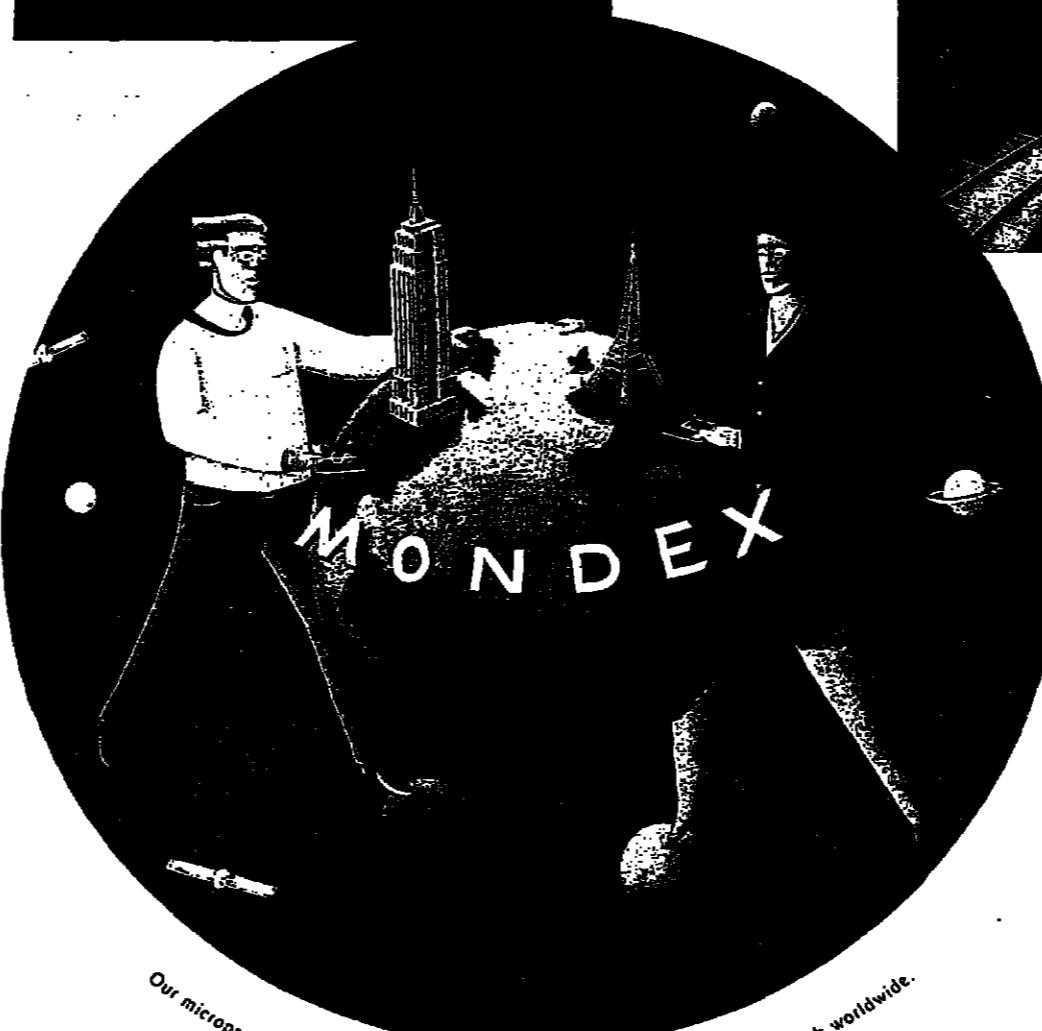
Joseph Melillo and Patrick Logan, who have been living together for 18 years, first applied for a marriage licence in 1990. When it was refused, they appealed to the state's supreme court, which in a 1993 ruling that appalled conservatives stated that denying homosexuals the right to marry violated the state's Constitution.

The issue threatens to divide a nation, and to become a political football in the run-up to an election being fought largely over differing views of

"family values". The Honolulu district attorney, fighting for the existing "straight-only" marriage law, has the backing of the religious Right, most conservative legislators and the well-known pundit William Bennett, whom Bob Dole considered as a possible vice-presidential running mate. He recently called the idea of gay marriage an "inherently flawed social experiment on an institution that is the keystone in the arch of civilisation".

Mr Melillo and Mr Logan, and two lesbian couples who have joined their crusade, are backed by the American Civil Liberties Union as well as gay advocacy groups. Despite a history of intolerance for homosexuality, however, 70 per cent of Hawaiians say they oppose gay weddings.

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Rap star shot in 'gangsta' feuding

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A RAP singer was wounded several times when gunmen riddled his limousine with bullets on the busy Flamingo Boulevard in Las Vegas.

Police believe the attack on Tupac Shakur, 25, was the result of a feud between Death Row records, for whom Mr Shakur is a best-selling star, and rivals in the music world.

Mr Shakur, who sings anti-authoritarian "gangsta" rap, had been travelling in a convoy of ten limousines to a nightclub on Saturday night after attending Mike Tyson's world heavyweight championship boxing bout. When the convoy reached the boulevard, the gunmen drew up alongside Mr Shakur's car in a white Cadillac and opened fire with automatic weapons.

Mr Shakur, who was shot four times in the chest, was recovering yesterday in hospital. He declined to assist police. In 1994, he had been shot five times at a New York recording studio. The culprit was never found.

US warns Iraq of new raids as pro-Baghdad guerrillas seize key city of Sulaimaniya

Clinton is ready to make Saddam pay 'hell of a price'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THE pro-Iraq Kurdish faction of Massoud Barzani captured the Kurdish stronghold of Sulaimaniya from the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) yesterday, United Nations officials said.

"The battle for Sulaimaniya is over. Massoud Barzani's fighters have entered the city without fighting," one UN official said by telephone from Arbil, confirming a statement by Mr Barzani's Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) that it had taken the key city.

Earlier, the Clinton Administration had warned President Saddam Hussein of Iraq "immediately to stop rebuilding air defence facilities destroyed in last week's cruise missile attacks or face further strikes."

In Sulaimaniya last night, many officials joined thousands of terrified civilians in an exodus to the mountains and the Iranian border. The fall of Sulaimaniya will give Saddam indirect but significant influence over most of northern Iraq which had been the only base inside the country for the Western-backed opposition to his regime.

Washington's warning was relayed to Baghdad after American intelligence had detected urgent Iraqi efforts to repair command-and-control centres, radar installations and surface-to-air missile sites in the enlarged southern no-fly zone.

"We have warned Saddam that any attempt to repair those sites or to reinforce them will be taken very seriously, and he must understand the consequences," General John Shalikashvili, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said.

US Administration officials said the repair work suggested "Iraq really intends not to



Talabani: renews plea for US intervention

honour the no-fly zone. It means that Iraq is now going after us." Plans for new missile attacks had been prepared.

"The strikes are ready to present to the President."

US officials have made it clear that America will not intervene militarily to stop what it regards as essentially a Kurdish civil war in northern Iraq, but would consider further missile strikes against Iraqi targets in the south if Saddam's forces fought openly alongside those of the KDP.

As yet, Washington lacks any clearcut evidence that that is happening.

Leon Panetta, the White House Chief of Staff, said: "Rather than engage tactically in the situation in the north, it makes better sense for us to operate on strategic basis and try to say to Saddam Hussein, 'You can play these games in the north, but you're going to pay one hell of a price every time you do it.'"

Before Sulaimaniya fell, it had been fear of Saddam's forces rather than the immediate threat to the city that had propelled the refugee exodus, Western aid officials said.

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Battles had raged 60 miles to the northwest, where the KDP captured the Dokan dam, a strategic hydroelectric power plant which controls water and electricity supplies to the region.

Jubilant KDP fighters had pledged that Sulaimaniya would be their next target as they travelled eastwards in convoys of trucks, taxis and pick-up vehicles mounted with machine-guns to press their advantage against the out-gunned PUK. The PUK's fighters were demoralised and most of the leadership had appeared to have fled Sulaimaniya already, possibly to Iran, UN officials said. Jalal Talabani, the group's leader, has probably fled the city, but continued to beg the United States to intervene.

The American Administration speaks of southern Iraq, but Saddam's tanks, army and secret police are on the move in the north - towards Sulaimaniya," the PUK said.

The Iraqi forces had heavy weaponry only a few miles behind the KDP's frontline positions, but appeared to have refrained from direct involvement although Western observers reported some long-range Iraqi shelling of PUK positions.

The PUK's fighters had been dug in to defend Sulaimaniya, which lies south of the 36th parallel, making it more vulnerable to Iraqi attack because it is outside the so-called Kurdish safe haven.

President Clinton last night insisted America was "doing everything we can, to get out of Iraq, American citizens and those who have worked with us". Two hundred Iraqi opponents of Saddam were reportedly holed up in the threatened city of Salahuddin.

With the main focus on the confrontation between Saddam and the American



Israel was plunged into fresh political scandal yesterday with the news that Ehud Olmert, left, the Mayor of Jerusalem who is an ally of Binyamin Netanyahu, right, the Prime Minister, is to be charged with fraud

Iran celebrates as CIA team flees Arbil

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE fast exit from northern Iraq of a CIA team that had been providing financial and technical support to Iraqi organisations opposed to President Saddam Hussein has exposed the complex power game that has been going on since the end of the 1991 Gulf War.

At stake is the stability of the whole region, the future of Saddam and, perhaps above all, the ambitions of Iran. The "civil war" between the rival Kurdish groups in northern Iraq presented each of the key players - the United States, Iran and Iraq - with an opportunity for increasing its influence.

With the main focus on the confrontation between Saddam and the Ameri-

cans, the gains and losses of Tehran have not attracted great interest. Yet it is ultimately Iran which has the potential for causing Washington more trouble in the future because of its strategic ambitions and its determination to prevent the West, and in particular America, from gaining too much influence in the region.

Iran merely waited and watched while Saddam launched his Republican Guard divisions into the Kurdish areas and then suffered the consequences at the hands of the Americans. The advantage for Tehran was that Saddam's offensive destroyed American Kurdish groups, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), supported by Iran, and the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), backed by Iraq.

A senior Western diplomatic source said: "Iran has been seeking to limit US influence in northern Iraq by keeping alive the conflict between the Kurdish factions and undermining American attempts to broker a peace deal. It has succeeded in this objective, at least in the short term."

The departure of the CIA team was a blow for the Americans. The intelligence officers were forced to leave Arbil in northern Iraq hours before Iraqi forces seized the town. The CIA had been engaged in clandestine operations there aimed at nurturing anti-Saddam organisations, debriefing Iraqi defectors and collecting military intelligence.

The "invitation" by the KDP to support its struggle with the PUK gave Saddam the opportunity to send in his

forces to destroy the CIA-supported organisation in Arbil, the Iraqi National Congress, the umbrella group acting for all anti-Saddam dissidents. The blow to America's secret operation and the collapse of the US-brokered peace negotiations between the PUK and KDP in London after Saddam's offensive would have been welcomed in Tehran.

However, not everything has gone in Iran's way. It backed the wrong Kurdish faction. The PUK has been round and now Tehran is faced with thousands of refugees crossing the border from northern Iraq. There is the added risk that some of them may be elements from a third Kurdish faction, the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran (KDPI), which opposes the Iranian regime from bases in northern Iraq.

land less than a mile wide. It was to be a classic Kurdish fight to the death, winner takes all.

As it happened the KDP is about to take all with hardly a casualty. The rival PUK appears to have turned tail and run. Villages on the road south that I visited yesterday are now in KDP control and their rival leader, Jalal Talabani, has probably taken refuge somewhere along the Iranian border, cursing both the West and Tehran for failing him.

His PUK members, military commanders and their families have followed him, leaving Massoud Barzani, the KDP leader, as the



Michael Nicholson in northern Iraq says Saddam's allies may have won a battle but lost a war for the "Kurdistan" they dream of

region's new overlord. Thanks, of course, to his pact with the devil, which is what he once called Saddam.

The two have done a deal. Saddam has provided Mr Barzani with the tanks and artillery to achieve his putsch. Saddam hoping that through the KDP he can govern by proxy that part of the Kurdish area which he is forbidden by the French that they have withdrawn.

US to enter. That explains the presence of an Iraqi mechanised brigade that I saw dug in only eight miles south of Arbil. Tanks, APCs, howitzers and heavy mortars and troops give every appearance of intending to stay, contradicting claims even now by the Americans and the French that they have withdrawn.

American surveillance

planes must surely have spotted them as easily as I did in their patrolling area of the UN no-fly zone. So why is the US State Department pretending they are not there?

Travelling across the country over the past week, I had the feeling I could be witnessing the death of the "Kurdistan" that so many people outside it have been trying to preserve for so long. The Kurds' traditional homeland stretches across the borders of Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.

The Kurds are shocked at the way these four countries are putting them down. We met a tribe of nomads on their way from the Iranian border only 40 miles away, driving

hundreds of sheep before them, erecting their large brown tents on the sheltered parts of the mountains. It is too dangerous to be near Iran, they told me. "We are better protected up here in the mountains."

The only remaining visible international protection in this vast and hostile territory is a contingent of a UN force, but it is small and vulnerable. They told me that at best they can only mediate in this conflict; to interfere could be suicidal.

Yesterday I visited Altush, a Kurdish refugee camp inside Iraq, south of the Turkish border. We met a tribe of nomads on their way from the Iranian border only 40 miles away, driving

from Turkey's war against yet another Kurdish faction, the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. All have their tales of families killed and villages burnt. If they once felt safe here they no longer do so.

They are afraid that after the Turkish Government's recent announcement of a corridor, a corridor stretching 15 miles across the Turkish-Iraq border, this camp will be declared a base for PKK insurgency and the Turks will send their special forces to empty it.

If Turkey does that then all pretence of a safe area will be finally shattered. Attacked on all sides by the strangest coalition of enemies, these

people will have nowhere to run and what was a great international cry of sympathy to "Save the Kurds" will become an ever-diminishing echo.

As we left the camp, children sang a song that began "We are ready to build our Kurdistan...". They are born to believe in it. They are raised to think of it as real and achievable, but the best they and their children can hope for is to grab what little freedom their enemies are prepared to grant them. For better, or worse.

Michael Nicholson is Senior Foreign Correspondent for ITN.

Okinawans challenge US bases

FROM AFP
IN TOKYO

OKINAWA'S Governor Masahide Ota is to have showdown talks here today with Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's Prime Minister, after a referendum on the island overwhelmingly called for cuts in the United States military presence.

Their meeting this afternoon is expected to influence the timing of the next general election, officials said.

Before leaving for Tokyo, Mr Ota said he had not decided whether to obey a Supreme Court ruling that he should sign documents renewing leases for US military bases.

Mr Hashimoto would be forced to pass special legislation to requisition the land if Mr Ota continues to refuse to sign the documents. That could cause a split between the two biggest parties in the ruling coalition, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party and the left-wing Social Democratic Party.

Mr Hashimoto said the Government would take the referendum result seriously, and that it was "natural" for Okinawans to seek the withdrawal of the bases. He said: "All we have to do is continue our efforts to reduce and consolidate the bases. We cannot cut the number of the bases to zero overnight."

Anti-US sentiment in Okinawa has run high since three servicemen raped a 12-year-old girl last year.

Leading article, page 19

Island dispute with Japan unites Chinese factions

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

is a strong possibility to be the first Peking-appointed Chief Executive next year, and asked him to lend a ship to sail to the islands. Mr Tong declined but gave the democrats a friendly reception.

For Peking, however, demonstrations of any sort in Hong Kong could be a source of future difficulty if they extend from one issue to another. The same is true in China. The issue of Japan's seizure of Chinese territory has enraged patriots since 1949 when Japan was handed part

tions are never welcome, however. On September 18, 1985, when university students objected to a visit by the Japanese Prime Minister to a military shrine honouring Japanese war dead, and opposed the flood of Japanese products into China, the activists, including posters in Tiananmen, posed "the gravest threat" since the Gang of Four. It was feared that forces opposed to Deng Xiaoping's open-door policy to the West were manipulating the students.

Peking fears that popular movements, even if initially praiseworthy, can expand to more profound issues, which was the case in the 1989 Tiananmen protests. Over the weekend, at Shanghai's Fudan University, the authorities tore down wall posters attacking Japan. In Peking, an anti-Japanese group led by men who in the past were removed from the capital during high-level Japanese visits, has issued a declaration calling for the military to take "concrete steps" to prevent Japanese incursions into Chinese-claimed territory.

In Taiwan nationalists have criticised the Taipei Government for not doing enough to protect the islands and some have sailed small boats there, where they were driven off.

In a mark of the confusion of nationalists and anti-mainland feelings, many Taiwanese, when asked, want their Government to send a warship to the Diaoyu islands; but few favour China doing so.

Uncontrolled demonstra-

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tions are never welcome, however. On September 18, 1985, when university students objected to a visit by the Japanese Prime Minister to a military shrine honouring Japanese war dead, and opposed the flood of Japanese products into China, the activists, including posters in Tiananmen, posed "the gravest threat" since the Gang of Four. It was feared that forces opposed to Deng Xiaoping's open-door policy to the West were manipulating the students.

Peking fears that popular movements, even if initially praiseworthy, can expand to more profound issues, which was the case in the 1989 Tiananmen protests. Over the weekend, at Shanghai's Fudan University, the authorities tore down wall posters attacking Japan. In Peking, an anti-Japanese group led by men who in the past were removed from the capital during high-level Japanese visits, has issued a declaration calling for the military to take "concrete steps" to prevent Japanese incursions into Chinese-claimed territory.

In Taiwan nationalists have criticised the Taipei Government for not doing enough to protect the islands and some have sailed small boats there, where they were driven off.

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British Polythene tops £14m

BRITISH Polythene Industries, the plastic bag manufacturer, continued its rapid growth with first-half pre-tax profits up 24 per cent, to £14.3 million.

However, BPI said it expects acquisitions made in the past two months to lose £1.5 million this year. The problem businesses include Swains Packaging and Smurfit Packaging Products, bought from Jefferson Smurfit for £25 million, and HPC, bought from Sidlaw Group.

Fully diluted earnings per share increased by 15 per cent, to 199p million. The interim dividend rises by 14 per cent, to 6.25p.

Converters up

Cash Converters, the retailer of second-hand goods, plans to open a further 67 stores in Britain, doubling the number of existing outlets within two years. The company, based in Australia but with a London share listing, lifted pre-tax profits to A\$6.51 million (£3.36 million), from A\$3.60 million, in year to June 30. A final dividend of 2.6 cents makes 3.9 cents (nil).

Principal plan

Principal Hotels has confirmed that it is to join the stock market by the end of the year, valued at about £100 million. It aims to raise £50 million to cut debt and add about 300 bedrooms to its chain.

Return date

Andrew Coppel, 46, chief executive of Queens Moat Houses, the hotel group, is expected to return to work within three months after preventative heart bypass surgery last week.

How ahead

How Group, the engineering services company, lifted pre-tax profits to £681,000, from £175,000, in the six months to June 30. The interim dividend is 0.5p (0.375p).



John Harris takes the driving seat of his company's bottled gas-powered go-kart after revealing a 9 per cent rise in profits to £19.6 million

Lottery proves just the job for employment

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE National Lottery will have created or secured 110,000 jobs by the year 2000, according to the first detailed study of the lottery's impact on job creation.

Construction and retailing will be the main beneficiaries of an employment boom that includes some of the UK's most depressed regions, and which more than offsets losses in the pools and gaming industries.

The most immediate gains have been in retailing, where 17,190 jobs have been secured among Camelot-appointed retailers and multiples. Many of the jobs are part-time. Jobs in retailing are expected to stabilise at 18,860. Some 645 jobs have been created at Camelot itself, rising to 660, and a further 580 jobs have been created among Camelot's direct suppliers. About 26,000 jobs have been created or secured so far. Gains in construction are less evident

because the larger projects have yet to start in earnest, but the impact will be noticeable in two years' time.

Jobs in construction are forecast to rise from 5,801 now, to 15,422 in 1997, 24,742 in 1998, and 27,892 in 1999, before peaking at 30,305 in 2000.

Job-creating projects include the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, and the redevelopment of Portsmouth Harbour. Others include arts centres, sports centres and swimming pools. The requirement for staff to manage and run the new complexes is expected to create an additional 24,115 jobs by 2000. Michael Needham, of the Henley Centre, said the estimates were highly conservative, and

thought total numbers could top 140,000, or more. The study considers the impact on Camelot's direct suppliers, for instance, without charting benefits lower in the chain.

Tim Holley, chief executive of Camelot, said: "The National Lottery was set up to raise funds for the good causes. The fact that we are also creating and securing jobs on such a large scale is an additional 'Virginia Bottomley, national heritage secretary, welcomed the news.

Camelot has linked with Royal Insurance to offer insurance to independent retailers, covering commission lost to ticket theft or terminal breakdowns.

Calor gains up to 5% of market in South West

BY CARL MORTISHED

CALOR, the bottled gas company, believes that it achieved the second largest market share in the free market trials in the South West, after Swed, the regional electricity company. Calor would not reveal the number of customers signed up by Calortex, its joint venture in mains gas with Texaco. However, British Gas is believed to have lost up to 20 per cent of its domestic customers and Calortex could have just short of 5 per cent of the South West market.

John Harris, chief executive, said that none of the independents would make money unless the trials extended to the country as a whole. He said: "You need at least one million customers to break even."

Cold weather provided a boost for liquid propane gas sales. Calor's core business, Volumes were up about 12 per cent in the first half of the year compared with the same period in 1995 and Calor's market share rose 1.6 per cent. Increased sales helped to lift operating profit, before restructuring provisions, by 23 per cent to £27.7 million.

Cost savings from Calor's £14 million restructuring enabled it to reduce prices. However, Mr Harris said prices might have to rise in October.

Profit after tax was up 9 per cent to £19.6 million in the six months to June 30 but the interim dividend is maintained at 6p.

BA to spell out job effect of cost cuts

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AIRWAYS will next week reveal to union leaders what its £1 billion cost-cutting package will mean for jobs.

Amid speculation that the airline plans to shed 10,000 jobs out of a total of 40,000, the two sides will meet on September 19, although informal meetings between British Airways directors and union leaders will take place

this week at the Trades Union Congress.

BA yesterday refused to confirm expectations of sweeping job cuts, but said that it would push through with cost reductions to combat "a very competitive environment".

The company said that no firm decisions had been made on implementing the step-change programme that BA announced in May with its

results. However, it is widely expected that a radical reshaping of the airline — which is likely to include selling parts of the business, contracting out operations and moving to cheaper sites — could not be undertaken without significant cost to jobs.

George Ryde, national secretary for civil air transport for the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that it was hard to see how jobs could escape unscathed. However, he said that the union had been told by BA that job figures were likely to remain stable — within 1,000 or so — until the end of the century.

Mr Ryde said: "We need to find out exactly what the company is proposing and over what timescale. At the moment, it is all rumour." He said he was hopeful that costs could be

cut without an enormous effect on jobs, and cited cost savings of £750 million made between 1991 and 1994 without the shedding of labour.

Mr Ryde said that the job projections for the end of the century may have involved not BA staff but staff needed to work in businesses that may be sold on by the airline.

Pennington, page 29

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Forth up to £10m as it awaits news on Rosyth

BY OLIVER AUGUST

FORTH PORTS, the port operator, saw its pre-tax profits rise from £7 million to £10.2 million in the half year to June 30.

The group is still waiting for a decision on the future of the Rosyth naval base. Yesterday, Forth presented itself as hopeful that a sale will be completed in the second half of the year. Throughout the first half, the group had discussions, as a member of the Rosyth 2000 consortium, with the Ministry of Defence for acquisition of the base.

Bill Thomson, the chairman, said: "We expect the second half to contribute towards a satisfactory result for 1996 as a whole. It has become increasingly clear that there are many investment opportunities available to us within our ports. It is very encouraging that this should be the case and it bodes well for the future of the group."

In March, Forth said that its priority was to integrate the ports of Tilbury and Dundee completely, and this is now complete. Mr Thomson said that both ports are performing to expectation and a drive for further efficiencies would help to enhance the performance of the two acquisitions.

The group had continued to work on its proposal for a new terminal on the Mersey by submitting a harbour empowerment order to the Department of Transport and a revised grant application to the Government Office for Merseyside, he said.

Earnings per share rose to 18p, from 14.4p. The interim dividend rises to 4p, from 3.6p.

One-2-One raises additional £1bn

BY ERIC REGULY

MERCURY ONE-2-ONE, the fourth largest mobile phone company, said yesterday that it has raised almost £1 billion in additional funds to complete the expansion of its digital network by the end of next year.

One-2-One, owned equally by Cable and Wireless and US West, a regional phone company, wants the network completed quickly so it can compete more effectively with Orange, Vodafone and Cellnet.

Orange, the only other all-digital network, launched its operations only two years ago and was able to quickly overtake One-2-One because it invested more heavily in developing a national infrastructure.

One-2-One, suffered

because it concentrated on greater London, with limited coverage outside the capital.

The company's shareholders have agreed to inject £355 million in funds into One-2-One over the next two to three years in addition to the £645 million already invested since the service was launched in 1993.

One-2-One has also secured another £600 million in debt financing, raising the total to £1.2 billion, from a 15-member banking syndicate led by Banque Paribas, HSBC, ING-Vestment Bank and Citibank International.

Available funding now stands at £2.2 billion, of which £970 million will be required to expand the network so it can reach 95 per cent of the population.

Writ says Perrodo broke pledge to indemnify losses

Kelt Energy chief sued for £3m

BY JON ASHWORTH

A POLO-PLAYING friend of the Prince of Wales is being sued for £3 million for allegedly renegeing on a deal involving Kelt Energy, the independent oil and gas company. Asifur Marwan, son-in-law of the late President Nasser and financier of large claims that Hubert Perrodo, Kelt's boss, agreed to indemnify him against any losses, after he bought shares in Kelt.

The action, outlined in a writ lodged at the High Court in London, casts light on a secret deal struck in the summer of 1991, when Kelt was on the brink of receivership. Mr Perrodo temporarily adjourned an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) to enlist Mr Marwan's support, but the

details were never disclosed. Kelt was taken private last year, when Mr Perrodo's Corrie Corporation, based in the Bahamas, completed a buyback of publicly held shares.

The dispute dates to 1988, when Mr Marwan claims to have entered into a verbal agreement to buy a package of ordinary and convertible preference shares in Kelt Energy. Mr Perrodo allegedly agreed to indemnify Mr Marwan against any loss on the shares. Lord Spens of Henry Aspinwall provided the introductions.

It is alleged that Mr Perrodo failed to keep his word, in spite of several requests by Mr Marwan and Lord Spens. By 1991, Kelt had run into difficulties, and the

banks, led by American Express, were threatening receivership if a rescue plan was not approved. Mr Marwan estimated his losses at £2.5 million, if his shares were disposed of after a rescue.

During an EGM on July 29, 1991, Mr Marwan indicated that he might not support the rescue plan. During a private 70-minute adjournment, Mr Perrodo and Mr Marwan secretly agreed a second deal, the writ claims, under which Mr Perrodo would pay Mr Marwan £3 million in compensation for his losses, securing his agreement. The deadline for payment was July 29, 1996.

Neither Mr Marwan nor his solicitor would comment last week. Mr Perrodo was in Paris, and was unavailable.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

British Vita raises hopes in the City

THE City raised its profit forecasts for British Vita yesterday after the polymers and plastics group reported better than expected results. Analysts said that the company's worst days now appear to be behind it. In 1995 British Vita's profits slumped because of weak economic growth in Europe, and inability to pass on increases in raw material prices. Bob McGee, chairman, said that the European economies are showing signs of improvement and a restructuring programme, notably in Germany, should lead to better margins.

British Vita's pre-tax profits in the half year to June 30 rose from £26.2 million to £26.4 million on turnover from continuing operations of £433.5 million, up 3.4 per cent. Cash from operations was £8.4 million against a deficit of £9.3 million previously. The interim dividend, payable on November 11, increases from 3.95p to 4p. Brokers raised their profits estimates to as much as £54 million. The shares closed at 235.4p, up 24.2p.

Brunner set for £46m

BRUNNER MOND, the largest British supplier of soda ash, a chemical used to make glass and detergents, yesterday said that its flotation should raise about £44 million, valuing the company at between £130 million and £150 million. Baring Brothers, the underwriter, expects the offer price per share to range from 170p to 210p. At the mid-point, the notional dividend yield would be 5.6 per cent based on pro forma earnings per share of 16.9p in the year to June 30. The shares are to be priced on September 19.

Perkins pegs payout

PERKINS FOODS, the frozen foods and fresh produce company, is holding the interim dividend at 1.75p a share, despite reporting an increase in interim profits to £11.1 million before tax from £10.4 million in the half-year to June 30. Earnings were 4.1p a share (3.9p). Howard Phillips, chief executive, said gearing was reduced to 38 per cent from 72 per cent. He said the company expected further growth in the second half.

Dewhirst up to £11m

DEWHIRST, the clothing business supplying Marks & Spencer, lifted its pre-tax profits to £11.1 million, from £10.1 million, in the six months to July 12. Earnings per share were 5.66p (5.19p). The interim dividend rises to 1.15p (1p). Sales advanced to £147.6 million, from £138.7 million. Tim Dewhirst, the chairman, said that trading margins had improved to 7.4 per cent, from 7.1 per cent. Dewhirst's shares rose 5p, to 191p.

Acquisitions help Fairey

A STRONG performance from recent acquisitions helped Fairey, the industrial electronics and specialist engineering group, to report a 32 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £21.3 million in the half year to June 30. Sales rose 26 per cent to £118.4 million. Earnings per share were 15.5p (13p) and the interim dividend, to be paid on November 15, is 2.85p, up 12 per cent. The £126 million purchase in August of Fusion UV Systems of the US is expected to enhance earnings. Shares closed at 697p, up 19.2p.

TT Group advances

TT GROUP, the acquisitive specialist manufacturing company, lifted pre-tax profits 22 per cent to £22.8 million in the half year to June 30, reflecting organic growth and contributions from new businesses. The interim dividend is up 15 per cent to 2.8p a share, payable on October 24, from earnings up 18 per cent to 9.6p a share. The company ended the period with net cash of £24.2 million in spite of holding higher stock levels as it moves to meet a growing demand for just-in-time deliveries.

Polypipe 12% ahead

LOWER raw material prices helped to lift pre-tax profits at Polypipe, the manufacturer of plastic pipes and fittings, by 12 per cent to £38.5 million for the year to June 30. There was a 9 per cent increase in sales to £208.7 million. The company will pay a final dividend of 2.14p on November 27, up 15.7 per cent, from earnings per share up 10.7p per cent to 11.9p. For the full year, the dividend is 2.97p (2.66p). Kevin McDonald, chairman and managing director, said its markets remained difficult.

Thorn plans US appeal

THORN, the UK rental services company, is to appeal against a US Court of Appeals decision affirming that its rental-purchase transactions

□ Jobs and baggage in the air at BA □ Business tests the TUC water □ Eco-friendly products suffer a setback

BRITISH AIRWAYS is growing to resemble one of those circus elephants that occasionally runs amok, trampling spectators, and smashing everything in its path. First, Bob Ayling, the steely-clad ringmaster, faced the embarrassment of a potential Downing of tools by BA's pilots — not a happy prospect, coinciding, as it did, with BA's annual jamboree for shareholders at the Barbican. Concurrently, came the proposed alliance with American Airlines — soon dismissed as a merger in everything but name, and running into heavier turbulence by the day. Now, comes leaked word of a John Birt-style shakeout, which could lead to the loss of 10,000 jobs, and see everything from baggage handling to aircraft maintenance parcelled off to bidders from Abidjan to Accra. Both worrying to passengers.

Bad news indeed — particularly for BA's long-suffering employees, who have grown to despair at the men running a company in which they take so much pride.

BA insists it must stick to its goal, announced in May, of stripping £1 billion out of the business within three years, if it hopes to remain competitive (the same argument used for

the American tie-up). It points out that £800 million in costs were taken out in the previous five years, through purchasing improvements, selling off old properties, and through working its aircraft harder — keeping them in the air, where they belong. The next phase, codenamed "Step Change", could involve the sale of baggage and cargo-handling, crew support operations, information technology, and other functions, although BA insists nothing has been finalised.

To be fair, the 10,000 job losses figure is a bit meaningless. BA's workforce has seen a wild fall in the last few years, falling from 54,500 in 1991 to 48,960 in 1993 (reflecting the slump in bookings after the Gulf War) then climbing again, to reach 55,300 by the end of March. Each new round of hirings has been heralded as the fruit of a profitable company serving customers and shareholders well.

Some IT work has been outsourced to India, but not a great amount. BA insists. Service and safety standards would never be compromised, whatever

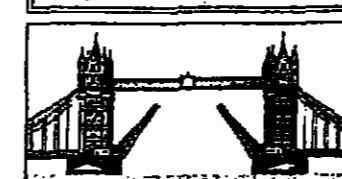
action is taken, says the world's favourite airline.

None of this makes BA's employees feel any better about the ham-fisted antics at Speedbird House. Lord King of Wartnaby initiated some tough reforms in his day, but you won't hear anything but grudging praise for him down at the pilots' canteen. Sir Colin Marshall, equally, was seen as a tough, but respected, operator. No such joy for Mr Ayling, on whose ringmaster lapel all BA's four p's are rapidly being pinned. Perhaps he should move on to another circuit.

Blackpool illumination

BUSINESS leaders were clearly in evidence at the annual conference of the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool yesterday — trying to glean some indications of what Labour will be like in government. The current spate of strikes means that business needs to be reassured about the old, vexed issue of Britain's indus-

PENNINGTON



trial relations. What business leaders heard from Blackpool yesterday drew from them a mixed response.

They liked the emphasis on competitiveness and on corporate success from TUC General Secretary John Monks: no longer are employers seen as the enemy, but instead successful companies are seen, by Mr Monks at least, as central to improving the economy, jobs and the unions themselves.

They liked less some other elements. They don't much like the idea of minimum standards at work. They don't like it from Europe, and they don't like it from the TUC either. From Europe, they don't like the social chapter, which a future Labour

government will sign. From the TUC, they don't much like a national minimum wage. Unions will set in Blackpool tomorrow their own preliminary target level for a statutory minimum.

Though Labour is constantly trying to increase its appeal to business — sometimes to the irritation and even anger of trade unions at the TUC — business leaders are coming to recognise that this process will go so far, and no further. Talks with senior Labour figures are starting to convince business leaders that Labour is for real on issues like the social chapter and the minimum wage, and that these are not subjects which are open for negotiation. Now business has moved on from back-of-the-envelope guesses about what their employment effects may be, and wants to know how they will work in practice, what they will mean and how they will operate. Then they can work on whatever options there might be for getting round them. Leaving aside the last point, this is the practical route for business to be taking ahead of

the election — and if that leads business leaders to Blackpool to try to find out, then that's the right move too.

Grey day for green washes

ANOTHER eight myth bites the dust. Green cleaning products are not very good for the environment. Sainsbury has decided to axe some of its "green" detergents on the devastatingly sensible grounds that they are not actually very green.

Suspicions that some supposedly environmentally friendly products were just another way of charging higher prices have been confirmed by the Sainsbury's move, which comes after a report by the National Consumer Council that many retailers' environmental claims are misleading.

In fact, many consumers have not waited to be told: sales of "green" cleaning products, so popular in the eighties, have already begun to fall in the more price-conscious nineties.

The onus will now be on the

many producers who make some claim to eco-friendly status — other supermarkets, the Body Shop, et al — to prove to consumers that their products really are all that they claim.

One problem with environmentally friendly cleaning products in particular is that often a lot more of them are needed to achieve the same results one would get using a standard, chemical-packed product. The recent suggestion from Lever Brothers that customers should use one third less washing powder than usual, because modern washing machines now do so much of the work, will do more for the environment than selling an inefficient, expensive, "eco-friendly" powder to small numbers of shoppers.

Out like a lamb

SIR ALASTAIR MORTON was unerringly pleasant when announcing better half-year figures and market share for Eurotunnel yesterday. But the charm offensive is unlikely to soothe the bankers who have endured years of curmudgeonly insults and will decide whether the financial restructuring will be in place before Sir Alastair retires as co-chairman next month. As with all things relating to the Channel Tunnel it will be brinkmanship to the end.

Danka in copiers takeover at Kodak

By PAUL DURMAN

DANKA Business Systems, the acquisitive photocopier group, will double in size when it buys part of Kodak's office equipment business for £684 million.

Danka is buying the sales, marketing and service arms of Kodak's Office Imaging business, which specialises in the high-speed copiers used by government and large companies. Shares in Danka — UK quoted but with its headquarters in Florida — leapt 85p to 560p.

With the addition of the Kodak business's \$1.8 billion of turnover, Danka's annual sales will rise to about \$3.5 billion. Danka said its recurring revenues from service, supplies and rentals would more than double to \$2 billion.

About 10,400 Kodak employees — 700 of them in the UK — are expected to join Danka. Integrating the two businesses will cost Danka an estimated \$25-\$35 million, which will be charged to its third-quarter results.

Mark Vaughan-Lee, Danka

Decline at Rugby Group

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

RUGBY GROUP, the building materials company, reported a 20 per cent drop in interim profits yesterday and gave warning that the outlook for the second half is mixed, with only a slight improvement in the UK market and no sign of recovery in Australia.

Geoffrey Higham, chairman, said: "While market conditions in the USA have generally improved, this is not the case in Australia and the UK."

"In the UK there are some signs of modest improvement in the housing market, though these will be slow to flow through to our business and are largely offset by reductions in public infrastructure spend."

In the first half, cement sales were down 8 per cent in the UK, while profits were nearly halved in the joinery business, he said.

In the six months ended June 30 pre-tax profits were £20 million (£36.1 million). The interim dividend will be maintained at 1.5p and is payable on November 1. Earnings were 3p a share (3.7p).

Mr Higham said bad weather in Britain, the US and on the Continent in the first quarter was partly to blame for the drop in profits.

Mr Higham will be succeeded as chairman by Robin Gourlay, a non-executive director since June 1994. The shares closed at 103p, down 1p.

Danka's chairman, said the deal would give his company a network of more than 700 offices in 35 countries. It would enable Danka to meet all the copying needs of its customers. Danka currently supplies relatively few high volume copiers, market dominated by Xerox with a share of more than 70 per cent.

Danka is financing the deal with debt, and has arranged a six-year \$1.2 billion facility with its banks. Mr Vaughan-Lee said Danka's business was highly cash-generative, and the Kodak deal was "a highly bankable transaction. Banks were crying out to get involved".

As part of a strategic alliance, Kodak will supply Danka with high-speed copiers and printers. Eastman Kodak, the parent company, put the copier sales business up for sale to concentrate on its photographic film interests. Kodak has retained its copier manufacturing and research and development operations.

Danka expects the deal to lead to an immediate improvement in earnings. Parlane Gordon, the company's broker, is forecasting that profits for the year to March 1998 will be £116 million — equivalent to 37p a share of earnings.

Lower-than-expected profits of £10.6 million came despite a 53 per cent increase in turnover. Earnings were down 22 per cent to £1.36p a share but the company declared a 4.6 per cent increase in the interim to £1.36p, payable October 26.

The book value of the assets that Danka is acquiring is about \$800 million. Mr Vaughan-Lee said that in previous acquisitions Danka had bought hardly any assets and had been paying largely for goodwill. It is acquiring Kodak Imaging Services, a facilities management business.

Tempus, page 30



Man of many parts: Chris Swan, chairman and managing director of Finelist Group, the distributor of automotive components, reported a rise in the company's pre-tax profits to £8.55 million, from £7.2 million, for the year to June 30. The total dividend rises to 6.4p, from 5.4p, with a final payout of 4.5p. Earnings per share were 17.8p (15.3p).

Waterford down on BSE worry

By EILEEN McCABE
IN DUBLIN

AN international downturn in dairy product prices and the continuing BSE beef scare resulted in a 4 per cent drop in interim pre-tax profits for Waterford Foods, the Irish dairy company.

Lower-than-expected profits of £10.6 million came despite a 53 per cent increase in turnover. Earnings were down 22 per cent to £1.36p a share but the company declared a 4.6 per cent increase in the interim to £1.36p, payable October 26.

The Cheese Company in Britain, acquired in September 1995, for £125 million, accounted for most of the turnover increase and a 25 per cent jump in operating profits to £22.8 million.

Tempus, page 30

Bull run ahead for Hammerson

By CARL MORTISHED

HAMMERSOHN was achieving rents of £37 to £39 per sq ft in 99 Bishopsgate, its office redevelopment in the City of London. However, he added that tenants were choosy. "If you cannot provide the right product, they are not interested."

Hammerson will start construction work this autumn on Globe House, an office project on the Embankment, in London. Mr Spinney expects to achieve rents of £35 a sq ft compared with a break-even rent of £28 a sq ft.

Total rental income increased from £62.9 million to £63.3 million in the half year. Hammerson intends to seek a joint venture partner for its redevelopment of the Bull Ring.

Tempus, page 30

Irish join Australian airports race

By RACHEL BRIDGE
IN SYDNEY

AER RIANA joined the battle for Australia's airports yesterday, saying that it intends to bid for three of the country's biggest airports in the imminent A\$4 billion (£2 billion) privatisation.

Hammerson will start construction work this autumn on Globe House, an office project on the Embankment, in London. Mr Spinney expects to achieve rents of £35 a sq ft compared with a break-even rent of £28 a sq ft.

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Tempus, page 30

Greenhills in advanced talks to buy Browns nightclub



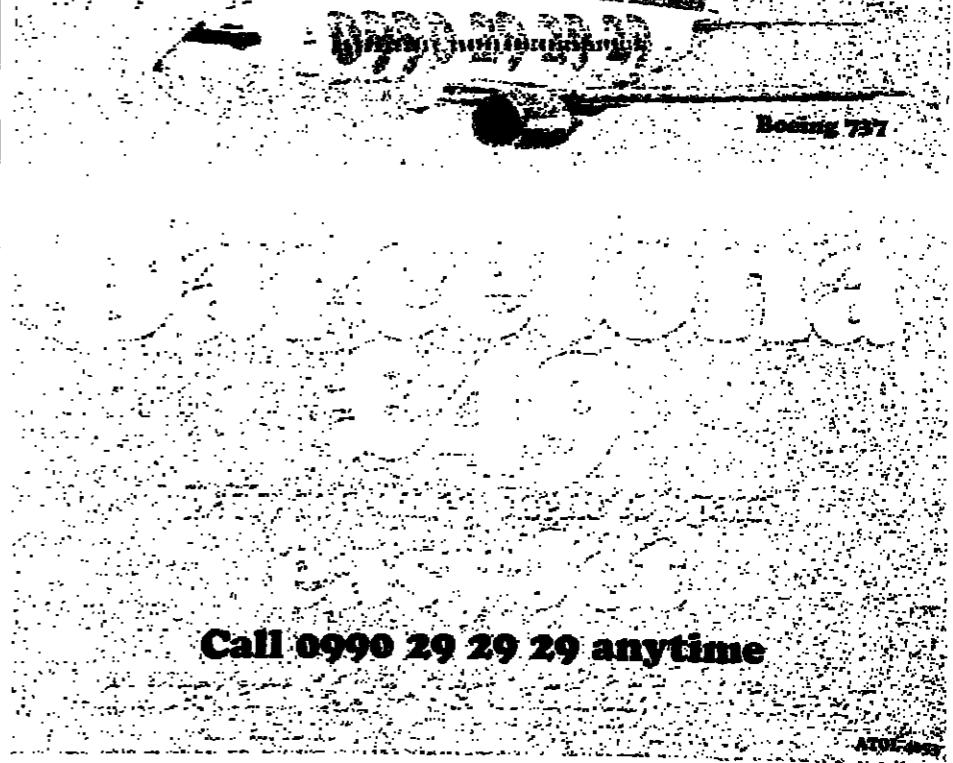
Browns is a favoured haunt of Naomi Campbell

GREENHILLS, the troubled AIM-listed leisure group, is in advanced talks to buy the exclusive Covent Garden nightclub, Browns, and is to take on two new directors who have been involved in six companies which have been insolvent.

The company has said it is in advanced talks to buy Browns Group, which owns Browns, a favoured haunt of celebrities such as Jack Nicholson and Naomi Campbell.

As part of the deal, two of the founders of Browns, 37-year-old Angelo Panayiotou and his partner Michael Alcumbrere, two years his senior, will be joining Greenhills board.

As part of the tightening up of AIM listing requirements, Greenhills has been obliged to reveal details of the two new directors' business history. This shows that Mr Panayiotou has been involved in five



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STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Strong buy signals send Railtrack to new high

THE recently privatised Railtrack continued to build up a full head of steam, closing at yet another new high and with at least one US institutional investor thought to be attempting to build up a stake in the company.

Last night the price closed 11p better at 2801p, its highest level since being floated in its partly paid form of 190p in May. More than nine million shares had changed hands by the close of business, making it the fourth heaviest traded among the top 100 companies. The shares went up a 13p dividend just a few weeks ago.

Brokers say Railtrack is continuing to attract institutional support on both sides of the Atlantic as the City wakes up to the group's hidden property portfolio and strong yield. Whispers circulating in the Square Mile yesterday suggested that SBC Warburg, the broker, is about to publish a buy recommendation for the shares which may include a sharp upward revision of the asset value.

Share prices generally were squeezed back above the 3,900 level as investors in London responded to Friday's impressive performance by Wall Street. An early rise by the Dow Jones average in trading yesterday only helped to fuel sentiment.

The FT-SE 100 index finished 17.8 points higher at 3,910.8. With BZW's computers out of action for much of the session, turnover remained low with just 606 million shares having traded by the close.

BTR firms 5p to 267p ahead of half-year figures on Thursday which are expected to be accompanied by a cut in the dividend of around one third. But the market has been reassured by talk that BTR will also announce disposals totalling £2 billion. Yesterday the group reported a loss of £120 million (£81 million) on the sale of its 51 per cent stake in Taiwan Polymer.

Danka Business Systems jumped 5p to 560p after revealing details of its £440 million (£293 million) acquisition from Eastman Kodak. The deal will be funded by bank borrowings.

A buy recommendation lifted Lasmo 8p to 213p. Merrill Lynch, the broker, is telling clients the next stop for the shares should be 225p. Hanson failed to glean much benefit from some positive



A win and TV deal put Manchester United ahead by 5p

comments from NatWest Securities, the broker, ending 11p down on the day at 1621p after going ex the 5p dividend. News of reduced losses lifted Eurotunnel 21p better at 100p. The deficit has been cut to £371 million from £426 million and Sir Alastair Morton, the outgoing co-chairman, indicated that the group is close to reaching agreement

The going will get tougher for Schroders, the financial services group which last week reported encouraging half-year profits. NatWest Securities and Credit Lyonnais Laing, the brokers, warn that corporate activity may drop off ahead of the general election and funds under management will see growth slow.

with the consortium of 220 banks over its £8.5 billion debt rescheduling. A deadline near the end of this month has been set on the debt for equity swap.

P&O soared 43p to 560.1p on the news that it is merging its container business with that of Royal Nedlloyd of Holland in a deal that will net the group £113 million. The new company, P&O Nedlloyd, will have an annual turnover

of £2.6 billion, making it one of the biggest operators in container shipping. The move was followed by a series of profit upgradings by brokers.

Stagecoach marked time at 532p after being elected preferred bidder for Island Line, the Isle of Wight rail franchise. Last month Stagecoach bought Porterbrook, the train leasing company, and current

ly operates the South West Trains franchise.

Meanwhile, Go-Ahead Group stood out with a jump of 15p to 309.1p as the group's Victory Railways was made the preferred bidder for Thames trains. Victory is a joint venture with the management of Thames Trains.

Manchester United celebrated its four-goal drubbing of Leeds United with a rise of

5p at 451.1p. The group has also confirmed plans to establish its own television broadcasting station, enabling fans to watch Premiership League games and other programmes devoted to the team. It is currently in talks with Granada Television just up the road from Old Trafford.

Calor Group, the bottled gas supplier group, held steady at 253p after weighing in with half-year figures at the bottom end of expectations. Brokers are worried that the second half could be hit by higher crude oil prices.

Confirmation of a setback in half-year profits at Rugby Group left the shares 1p easier at 103p. The group blamed its performance on dull conditions in the building industry. But brokers were taking an optimistic line about the group's long-term prospects in the belief that these figures will mark the low point in its fortunes.

John Mansfield, the builders' merchant, held steady at 314p after news of a profit setback and in spite of a 25 per cent increase in sales. The group was confident that its markets would improve in the second half.

Positive trading statements were good for TI Group, up 3.5p to 323.5p, Dowling & Mills, 11p firmer at 80p. Polypipe, 4p at 200.1p, and Perkins Foods, 5p at 86p.

But ASW Group eased 1p to 63p after plunging into the red with losses of £24.2 million against a profit £30.8 million. □ GILT-EDGED: Investors took a back seat for most of yesterday's proceeding, choosing instead to wait for this week's clutch of domestic and US economic data. As a result prices were squeezed higher in thin trading with the latest rise in producer input prices failing to make much of an impression.

In futures the December series of the long gilt finished 1p better at 10617/32 as a total of 23,000 contracts were traded.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 added 11/32 at £989.3p, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was seven ticks better at 10103/32.

□ NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street extended Friday's rally when August employment and wage figures allayed fears that interest rates might rise. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 32.18 points higher at 5,692.04.

□ FALLS: Jarvis Porter 192p (-10p). Nat West 629p (-16p). PizzaExpress 440p (-10p). Osborne & Little 796p (-10p).

Having put the business

in the sand at 50 per cent of the LPG market, Calor may be unwilling to let that go even if gross margin is likely to suffer.

But Calor is becoming a more efficient organisation after its decision to invest £14 million in restructuring.

Clearly, a company with the reliable cash profile of Calor could cope with a dividend covered less than two times. Calor's main business, currently requires little investment although the indications are that more will be ploughed into LPG in emerging markets. If Calor raises the payout by a penny at the year end, the yield premium on the shares is 60 per cent. That looks attractive.

TEMPUS

The shipping forecast

YOU have to hand it to P&O. When the company announced earlier this year its plans to reshape the business, it received a rather sardonic cheer from the investment community. No one doubted it would probably sell a few assets, ditch a bit of property and spin off its housebuilding operations. However, the core target — raising the group's return on capital to 15 per cent — seemed a distant goal, dependent on boosting the appalling performance of container shipping. The impression that prevailed in the City was that P&O had been kicked by its investors and that was a kneejerk response.

Apparently, P&O has been talking to Nedlloyd since December, ironing out a deal which should provide annual savings of £65 million for P&O by 1998. And that is likely to be only the beginning. Out of the indicative

\$200 million savings revealed yesterday, the vast majority is fixed-cost reductions — staff and premises to be shed as the operations are merged. However, the challenge is to raise container utilisation rates and chances are that P&O Nedlloyd can double the \$20 million budgeted saving from reducing the number of empty containers crossing the Atlantic.

Even so, by achieving these savings the company is well on the way to securing better returns. Had the lower costs been in place in 1995, a miserable year for the business when P&O's profits from containers were halved, its return on capital would have been 13 per cent.

Of course, headaches remain. P&O needs to sort out which shipping alliance the new group will join, but a more profitable business will encourage others to join. In due course, a flotation on Wall Street looks likely.

Danka

DANKA Business Systems seems to have secured a good deal from Kodak, but perhaps not one worth an extra 18 per cent on its share price. The leap in the shares stems more from relief among Danka's mainly American investors who feared a call on their wallets to fund a deal.

Danka will double in size after buying the sales and services side of Kodak's high-speed copier business. Yet it is paying only 38 cents for every dollar of turnover purchased — around a 25 per cent saving on the going rate for such businesses.

Unusually for the copier industry, Danka is acquiring real assets, not just goodwill, and they have been priced at a \$16 million discount to net worth.

Having put the business

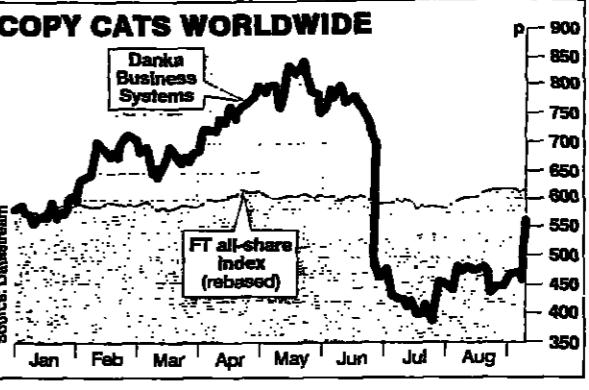
up for sale, Eastman Kodak found few potential buyers able to fund a deal of that size.

Danka should enjoy a substantial boost to the bottom line. Assuming the company makes 3p of earnings for the year to March 1998, the shares still look cheap.

However, worries remain about the relentless pace of

the Americans.

Danka's growth. The June profits warning which took £2 off the share price was blamed at the time on over-rapid hiring of new staff. If Danka's management could not control its fixed costs then, what are its chances of holding together a much larger empire? Investors may wish to leave this one to the Americans.



Calor Group

THE ONLY disappointment from Calor yesterday was the dividend. Cash is pouring out of the bottled gas business and, following a sharp increase in winter sales, the company managed to squeeze almost £20 million out of its working capital. Free cash flow in the half year, after interest and tax, totalled £40 million and, currently, Calor does not have enough uses for it.

Of course things should be more difficult in the second half. With the oil price feeling feverish over the hostilities in the Gulf, input costs will increase and Calor may not feel able to claw back all of that from its customers. In the first half the company invested a couple of million in gross margin in order to regain a percentage point in market share. Good winter volumes and cost efficiencies allowed Calor to give price away but improve operating profits. Having drawn a line

in the sand at 50 per cent of the LPG market, Calor may be unwilling to let that go even if gross margin is likely to suffer.

But Calor is becoming a more efficient organisation after its decision to invest £14 million in restructuring. Clearly, a company with the reliable cash profile of Calor could cope with a dividend covered less than two times. Calor's main business, currently requires little investment although the indications are that more will be ploughed into LPG in emerging markets. If Calor raises the payout by a penny at the year end, the yield premium on the shares is 60 per cent. That looks attractive.

The success or failure of the new strategy will not be known until well after Thursday's interim figures. Shareholders must wait to find out if Mr Strachan's break with the past is enough to revitalise the company.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

function effectively. Yesterday BTR achieved another milestone in the disposal programme with the £190 million sale of its majority stake in Taiwan Polymer.

Off the 300

On the 300

THE
TIMESCITY
DIARYTwitching
to be off

SIR Alastair Morton has been meticulously planning his hols for when he stands down as co-chairman of Eurotunnel at the end of October. For the first quarter of next year, Sir Alastair and Lady Morton, who is renowned for bending her chums' ears with tales of her exciting travels, will be venturing through South America, the South Pacific and Antarctica. The pair want to "switch off" and enjoy a spot of their new hobby, bird watching. And what will Sir Alastair be taking to read? "Nothing to do with tunnelling."

Away games

ANOTHER HSBC employee is being shipped across the Atlantic to join the bank's burgeoning ghetto in Summit, New Jersey. Baby-faced Ian Shepherdson, who stuck his neck out for a recovery in the housing market, and sold his own property in 12 hours to prove it, has been promoted from chief UK to chief US economist. A committed Newcastle United fan, Shepherdson has rented a house with a six foot TV screen in the hope of catching a home match between the baseball and American football. "I was on the waiting list for two-and-a-half years before my season tickets came through last October. Needless to say, some of my family are delighted about my move."

Off the ball

HOWARD DAVIES spends his "most important hour of the week" on Friday afternoons sweating in a Manchester City kit at a grotty football pitch south of the Thames with the likes of the BBC's John Birt. In this month's *SHE* magazine, the deputy governor of the Bank of England describes his weekly foray as an "escape from the world of finance". Davies, who claims to be the only non-TV person on the pitch, says: "I never think about interest rates, or the value of the pound, or the Bank of England."



Own goal

THE City Diary telephone lit up on Friday after my comment about the smoking ban at Molins' results meeting. A panicky Peter Harrison, chief executive, comes on the phone. "There was no ban. Our company respects people's freedom of choice," and it makes cigarette rolling machines. Clearly one can't always rely on one's informants — even when they do hail from the firm.

Cider with Norma

JOHN and Norma Major flew into Bulmer's back-yard yesterday for some liquid refreshment at the cider plant in Hereford. On the day that the Prime Minister said that he would aim for a 20p standard rate of income tax, he was sipping Strongbow, with Esmond Bulmer, grandson of the plant's founder and a former Conservative MP for Wyre Forest. While his wife tried a Woodpecker, Mr Major smacked his lips and recalled fond memories of his more energetic cricketing days when he used to quench his thirst with a pint of cider.

MORAG PRESTON



Ups and downs: sales growth at Disneyland Paris has slowed this year from 17 per cent in the first quarter to a flat forecast in the final

The theme may change but it still is not child's play

Frank le Duc gives an end of summer report on a leisure market growth sector

Analysts and investors could have picked up some hot tips from a bunch of kids this past week. Back at their desks after the long summer break, schoolchildren have been comparing the destinations they visited and the breath-taking rides they tried out at Europe's theme parks: Space Mountain at Port Aventura; Nemesis at Alton Towers. Investors, too, have enjoyed — or endured — a rollercoaster ride, holding their breath in anticipation as they relinquish control and suspend their belief.

The general trend in attendances has been positive this year, with visitor numbers expected to show an increase. The weather has played a part: if it is hot, people head for the beach; if it is wet, they opt for indoor attractions.

The high profile launch of Euro Disney's park and rides just outside Paris in 1992 created greater awareness of this sector of the leisure market. The arrival of the Magic Kingdom has not been to the detriment of rivals, but has given impetus to demand in general. Bill Richards, senior partner at Tourism Research & Marketing, the consultant, said: "The impact of Disney didn't take anything away from the existing market. It built the market." Euro Disney's launch was, however, anything but an easy ride. The spotlight of publicity picked out the cost overruns and trading losses in sharp relief. Then, just as in all the best fairy tales, a prince came to the rescue. Prince al-Waleed bin Talal bought a 24 per cent stake, with a promise of substantial further cash for improvements to the park; a rights issue was held; more than 60 banks agreed to an interest holiday; and Walt Disney, holder of the biggest stake, agreed to waive royalties and management fees.

Investors in Pearson could have been forgiven for having an uncomfortable feeling in the pit of their stomachs when the group announced plans to take a 40 per cent stake in the consortium building Port Aventura in Spain. They need not have worried. Translating Alton Towers into Spanish may present a linguistic challenge, but the concept appears to have travelled well. And to the delight of Lord Blakenham, Pearson's chairman, the Spanish appetite for a full and leisurely lunch has provided the icing on the revenue cake.

The expertise behind Chessington World of Adventures and the other attractions in Pearson's Tussauds subsidiary, combined with a more favourable

climate than Paris, have ensured that the only rollercoaster ride has been for the Spanish park's visitors.

Port Aventura is one of three theme parks run by Tussauds and has proved profitable from an early stage. The management freely admits that it learnt lessons from the problematic birth of the debt-laden French project as it takes full advantage of a site rejected by Euro Disney. "We are big fans of Disney — they do things terribly well," said Juliet Simpkins, head of public affairs at the Tussauds Group, "but there are differ-



Bourguignon: longer visits

ent aspects. Port Aventura is in a sunny climate. It's on a part of the coast that is well established in attracting visitors and well supplied with hotels and apartments.

One of the problems that Disneyland Paris encountered was with the hotels rather than the park itself.

She praised the transport infrastructure (though Disney-

land Paris is now well-connected when it comes to planes, trains and automobiles, compared with when it launched) and added that 20 million tourists visit the Costa Dorada each year. Millions visit Paris too, but the type of tourists who have tended to head for the Spanish costa are more likely to fall within a theme park's target market.

Other differences between the two attractions are that Disneyland Paris is on a larger scale and open all year, which adds to the cost base, although the improvement in operating revenue shown in the first two quarters of the current financial year highlight the scope for growth that Euro Disney is keen to emphasise. Sales growth has slowed in successive quarters this year — from 17 per cent in the first to 8.9 per cent in the second and 4.5 per cent in the third — and is expected to be flat in the current and final quarter, which ends

on September 30. Nigel Reed, leisure analyst at Paribas, said: "A period when you make two thirds of your revenues [third and fourth quarters] is showing inadequate growth." This is because the park is operating much closer to capacity at the height of summer, leaving less room for improvement.

The good news for shareholders, concedes Mr Reed, is that the threat of closure has been substantially reduced, so customers are much less worried about putting down deposits than they were before the restructuring. And

Space Mountain, which opened last year, has proved the big attraction that the company hoped, although Mr Reed said that the benefit was unwinding. About a quarter of admissions to the French park are repeat customers, making new rides a key ingredient for financial success.

Mr Reed said that much higher growth was vital as the interest holiday and waiver of royalties and management fees would end in three years' time. "You actually need 50 to 60 per cent more revenue over the next three to four years. That's the nub of the problem." The development of the adjoining Festival Disney is progressing well. The official opening of the Planet Hollywood restaurant is due shortly, and a Gaumont cinema should open within a few months. Plans to develop adjacent land are in the pipeline. The park is also aiming to persuade people to stay for longer, expanding the scale of the operation is essential for the success of this aspect of Euro Disney's dream.

Mr Reed said that, while there would be no new rides next year, there would be a big celebration of the park's fifth birthday, complete with special parades and new shows. The need for further development could also mean a further

cash call. "There has been no suggestion recently, but it wouldn't surprise me, it's a significant possibility."

At Tussauds Group, the successful opening of a hotel at Alton Towers this year has pleased Michael Joly, the chairman and chief executive, who said: "There is no fixed or firm commitment just now to build hotels at Port Aventura, but there is every intention to do so." Like Philippe Bourguignon, who runs Euro Disney, he wants to attract visitors for longer at the Spanish park and at Alton Towers. Mr Joly said the intention at Port Aventura was to expand capacity and add rides, and he expected visitor numbers to rise further. This year they are ahead on a like-for-like basis, although the season does not end until October 27, and September was the busiest month last year.

Chessington World of Adventures, another Tussauds attraction, has faced competition this year from not only Thorpe Park, but Legoland Windsor. Mr Joly said: "There has been no diminution in visitors, and sometimes growth over last year. Legoland has stimulated the market."

Mr Richards, who will be issuing Tourism Research & Marketing's annual report on theme parks, does not expect to report any major new rides at the best-known parks. But Efteling in the Netherlands is another park planning a hotel. Mr Richards foresees potential for Western Europe's main parks to build new rides, as there is a good market in Eastern Europe and South America for second-hand rides.

The other significant trend is the greater emphasis on "entainment". Parc Asterix in France contended on this early on, and Disneyland Paris showed that it understood the concept when it introduced the Space Mountain ride, featuring associated educational material. More in a similar vein can be expected about sailing and navigating between now and the end of the century as Euro Disney taps this theme in its efforts to persuade parents that a visit is more than just a fun day out — or two. As more theme parks open and are planned, the competition is expected to raise standards and expand the market further. Euro Disney will be hoping to lead the way if it is to offer any financial return. Its managers can — and do — listen to the youngsters who have been taken for a thrilling ride this summer, but they can also testify that ensuring a happy landing for investors is far from being child's play.

Talk of European monetary union being delayed because countries are failing to meet the Maastricht economic convergence criteria is looking dangerously naive. The single currency will probably go ahead, on the back of a shameless statistical Euro-fudge if necessary.

The financial markets have known this for months, which is why German and French long bond yields have converged and why currency dealers have only flirted with attacking the franc. But now we all have proof that the politics driving the campaign for a single currency will shamelessly trample over the economy. John Major should decide how he intends to respond to this new intelligence before the Dublin summit on the Saturday before the Tory Party Conference. His Euro-sceptic wing has some stupendous new ammunition.

Last week, France announced an astonishing deal with France Télécom. Before it is privatised, the state-owned company will make a one-off payment to the Government of Fr37.5 billion, the equivalent of £4.7 billion or 0.5 per cent of gross domestic product. In return, the Government

has promised to keep in the public purse the future cost of telecom workers' pension payments. Put baldly, France gives itself a fighting chance of meeting the Maastricht deficit criteria but also burdens future taxpayers with huge unfunded pension liabilities.

Yves-Thibault de Silguy, spokesman for Europe's Monetary Affairs Commissioner, has said that the Commission has not yet taken a definitive position on the transfer, but it is inconceivable that France will be stopped. The Commission is so desperate for the single currency to go ahead, whatever the economic arguments, that it is reputed to boast a team devoted to exploiting the vague language of Maastricht and dreaming up accounting wheezes to ensure that enough countries can make the EMU grade.

The fact that the French announcement has not created a political storm in Europe and seems to have been ignored by the markets should once and for all shift the European debate away from the Maastricht criteria. They will not be met, but tant pis as far as the political

elites in Paris, Bonn and Brussels are concerned. All the worthy attention to detail, all the good intentions about economic convergence are being junked.

For the Bundesbank, this is a nightmare. For British Euro-sceptics, it is ample reason to remain deeply suspicious about the single currency. If countries which do not meet the criteria strictly are allowed in simply because their participation is deemed politically necessary, how easy will it be to keep others out? If France is allowed to get away with outrageous interpretations of Maastricht's deficit rules, why can't Greece or Portugal?

And the particular form of creative accounting announced by France stores up dreadful trouble for the future. Britain knows all about such things. Take the private finance initiative, which has allowed the Government to slash its capital spending budget but spreads out huge spending commitments years into the future. Or the cut-price sale of British Energy, which leaves the taxpayer to pick up the incalculable tab for decommissioning.

All this makes negotiations about the rules of the game after

EMU that much more crucial. As the quid pro quo for allowing the Maastricht rules to be bent out of recognition, Britain and others should now force a serious debate on the Stability Pact. This is the system of sanctions proposed by Germany to impose long-term economic discipline on countries which have skewed policy purely towards meeting arbitrary criteria on an arbitrary deadline.

Unfortunately for those of us who believe that the single currency will wreak untold havoc on the European economies without proper economic convergence — even if that is possible — there are already signs of backsliding as the German Government falls over itself to appease France. Just a week ago, Bonn said that it could relax the Stability Pact for countries suffering exceptional hardship or natural disaster. It looks like another slice of Euro-fudge to sweeten the road to 1999. Isn't Britain entitled to question whether all this is the recipe for stability in Europe which Germany and France so insistently claim?

BUSINESS LETTERS

EU threats are the wrong way to persuade Britain to join single currency

From Mr Selwyn Hodson-Pressinger

for currency union looks increasingly impractical in view of prevailing economic conditions.

This is surely not the manner in which to defend the Franco-German axis and the cause of European integration. Similarly, EU recent threats to diminish London's standing as a European financial centre and exclude our bankers from a future "euro-zone" if we fail to adopt the single currency (ref articles by George Brock and George Sivell, *The Times*, September 2 and 3) is the wrong manner of persuasion.

Britain's future IGC negotiations would clearly benefit

Sady, EMU was not on the agenda of the last intergovernmental conference, but events may well ensure it receives the serious attention it deserves by the next IGC.

As for issues set out in the UK Government's last White Paper on Europe, they are clearly too important to be traded off lightly during any IGC negotiations. The UK must ensure its prime objective is generally understood: to remain a European partner, but only on terms that are acceptable.

Britain's future IGC negotiations would clearly benefit

from the threat of a British plebiscite on the country's continued full membership of the EU, not just on the single currency issue.

Such a sword of Damocles hanging over future IGC proceedings should ensure UK interests were properly protected, and be a counter to current EU coercive behaviour.

Yours faithfully,
SELWYN HODSON-PRESSINGER,
4 Lyall Street,
SW1.

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Profit before tax	£26m
Earnings per share	7.7p
Dividend per share	4.0p

- Good recovery from 2nd Half 1995
- Concentration on operational margins
- Strong Cash Flow at business level

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EDUCATION

Peter and Lynne Boundy explain how they supported their son through university despite having minimal income

When parents are on the breadline

Life as we knew it changed in September 1992. Until then we had enjoyed a comfortable, middle-class existence with few financial worries. We were cruising towards retirement with the prospect of a decent pension some time in the next decade and our children were almost out of our hands, three down, one to go. Then we became the victims of downsizing and rationalisation. In a word, redundancy. Suddenly we became the *nouveaux pauvres*, the downwardly mobile, a statistic in the unemployment figures.

Fortunately our three older offspring were independent at this stage, having experienced their entry into higher education during our more affluent period. Unfortunately, for Simon, the youngest, the start of his university career coincided with this poverty-stricken period in our lives.

Filling in the grant form was not difficult. Income nil, expenditure unlimited. I exaggerated — we had state benefits of £70-odd a week but that barely covered all the insurance premiums we had been paying in our pre-unemployment days. So he was awarded a grant, enough to pay for his accommodation: the student

loan might pay for his food and travel, and perhaps his books.

But what about the beer, the clothes, the phone calls, the visits to the cinema, the tickets to see a band, all the things that ease the drudgery of study and help you to keep your end up in the popularity stakes? How was he going to be able to enjoy all those things that make the student experience pleasurable?

It didn't augur well when we realised that he was to be the only state comprehensive student in a university flat of four, the other three being the products of public schools and of much more affluent parents. And living in Edinburgh on a grant is no mean feat. Despite the extra money he had earned in the summer vacation as a waiter, gardener, painter and decorator, the handouts from grandparents and the money pressed into his hands by his older siblings (were these the children who only a few years previously could create the Third World War over the division of a bar of chocolate?) we were envisaging

most importantly in Simon's

straightened circumstances, with *Gerting Back the Deposit*. Equivalent to a month's rent, this is a considerable sum in the fortunes of a poverty-stricken student but in the eyes of a majority of landlords is seen as fair game and extra bonus on top of the often exploitative rents charged.

We have become conversant with most of the remedies in the Household Tips books, mostly of the removal of beer stains, burn marks, filling in holes in the plaster variety, and last year he and his flatmates were successful in retrieving their deposit.

A further expense which is not built into the grants system is the fact that, in order to be assured of reasonable accommodation with like-minded friends, it appears to be

necessary to find, and pay rent for, the following year's flat throughout the whole of the summer vacation.

Working during the summer is *de rigueur* for the majority of students,

and no less so for our son. The Benefits Agency was adamant we were not entitled to anything extra for the additional adult living with us for the three months of the summer vacation.

A short-term maintenance job in a local factory provided Simon with the means to enable him to keep up his rent payments on his flat and to go out with his mates occasionally, but it was more than a little guilt-inducing for us to feel we could do so little to support him. While so many of his peers were backpacking or just package-holidaying, he had to stay at home for lack of funds.

Illness is an inevitable consequence of living on a starvation diet and burning the candle at both ends



Down but not out: Peter and Lynne Boundy managed to send their youngest son Simon to Edinburgh, in spite of the trauma of unemployment

and it therefore came as no surprise to us to get a phone call in the first term of his second year, saying: "Mum, I'm in hospital." Our son, who had never had a day's absence from school, had developed an abscess in his throat which had to be drained as it was constricting his swallowing. His primary concern was the exam he had to take in two days' time. With strict instructions from his mother to inform his tutor that he was taking the exam under the influence of powerful drugs (of the medicinal variety) and was feeling less than well, he duly sat the exam. We took great comfort in the caring nature of his flatmates who visited him in hospital and kept us informed by phone of his progress.

His second year has been equally stressful financially. Despite his lack of money, he has enjoyed a social life and maintained his circle of more affluent friends. The vaca-

tion will have to be spent earning enough money to pay his rent throughout the summer. We are in the world of employment once more and are gradually getting back on to a more stable financial footing. At least the threat of repossession no longer haunts us. Whatever small amount we are able to send him when the odd upturn in our luck occurs is always gratefully received, though this is a rare event.

Simon will have wished him to live at home and attend a local university, which is perhaps a tendency that will be encouraged in the future? No. Leaving home and learning to mix with others is an essential step in the moulding of a young person's character and where better to do this than in an academic environment where he or she will be exposed to challenging and stimu-

lating ideas? How has he benefited? Apart from having the good fortune to spend four years in a beautiful city, he has met people whom we suspect will remain lifelong friends. He has learnt to manage his money and his time, but above all, he is learning to survive in circumstances which he may very well have to cope with in an uncertain economic future and a flexible job market.

The authors have two sons and two daughters. The three elder ones are earning their own living, while the youngest is currently studying politics and history at Edinburgh University. Abridged from a chapter in a book, *It's Quiet on the Front: Supporting Your Son or Daughter Through University*, published this month by the *Unit for Innovation in Higher Education* Supplement, priced £7.95. For further details contact the IHE Unit, Lonsdale College, Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 4YN. Tel 01524 55211 ext 4522.

Freshers' guide to surviving college

Students pass on some financial tips

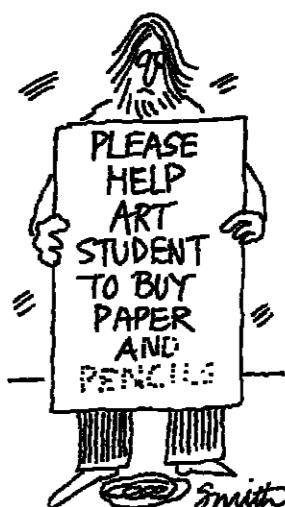
With the new term only a few weeks away, this is the time when all students, particularly freshers, will be thinking about how they are going to make the most of what will be very limited finances, *David Godley* writes. They will have to learn how to survive, study and have a good time without incurring the wrath of their bank manager.

Speaking from personal experience, I know it is possible to do all three without having to rob a bank. Admittedly, studying at Oxford means that eight-week terms, coupled with lower than average accommodation costs, have saved me (so far) from the financial nightmare that many students experience.

Yet, even with a full loan and grant, I still ended my second year £900 overdrawn. For many, a grant, loan and interest-free overdraft will not be enough. Some may have to take a part-time job to supplement their income and others will have to tap into the reserves of various college hardship funds, not to mention asking mum and dad for a few or two.

Attending college in the 1990s is an expensive business, but financial hardship need not mean the end of the world: the important thing for all students to remember is that if you encounter difficulties don't suffer in silence. Talk to someone, preferably your bank manager. As a student, you are at a premium because the bank wants to keep your custom. They know that in a few years you may be a wealthy customer.

By taking a few early steps now, you can pre-empt any difficulties so here are a few tips to help you on your way:



If possible ask friends or relatives who have been to college how their bank treated them and shop around to find the best deal — do not be tempted by gimmicks.

Try to find a sympathetic bank manager — one who, if necessary, will increase your overdraft limit should things get tough.

Resist the temptation to use a credit card — they were not designed to fund a student lifestyle.

Check out whether the college has a welfare fund. If so, then use it. That is what it is there for.

And last, do not let money worries spoil your time at university. These days should be the best of your life, so live them to the full.

Students would receive nearly twice the current maintenance grant if it had risen in line with inflation over the past 20 years, *James Ashton* writes.

Vice-chancellors estimate that students embarking on a three-year degree course this autumn will owe £5,485 in loans plus interest when they graduate in 1999. Those in Scotland, where a four-year degree is standard, will owe £7,811 in 2000.

Students who have yet to apply for a maintenance grant can still obtain forms from their sixth-form college or local education authority. The grant is confirmed on acceptance of an offer from a university or college and can be collected in termly instalments from the establishment.

Undergraduates can borrow a maximum of £1,645 per year (£2,035 in London) from the Student Loans Company. Repayment is delayed until the April following graduation, and then only if the borrower's earnings exceed the current threshold of £15,200.

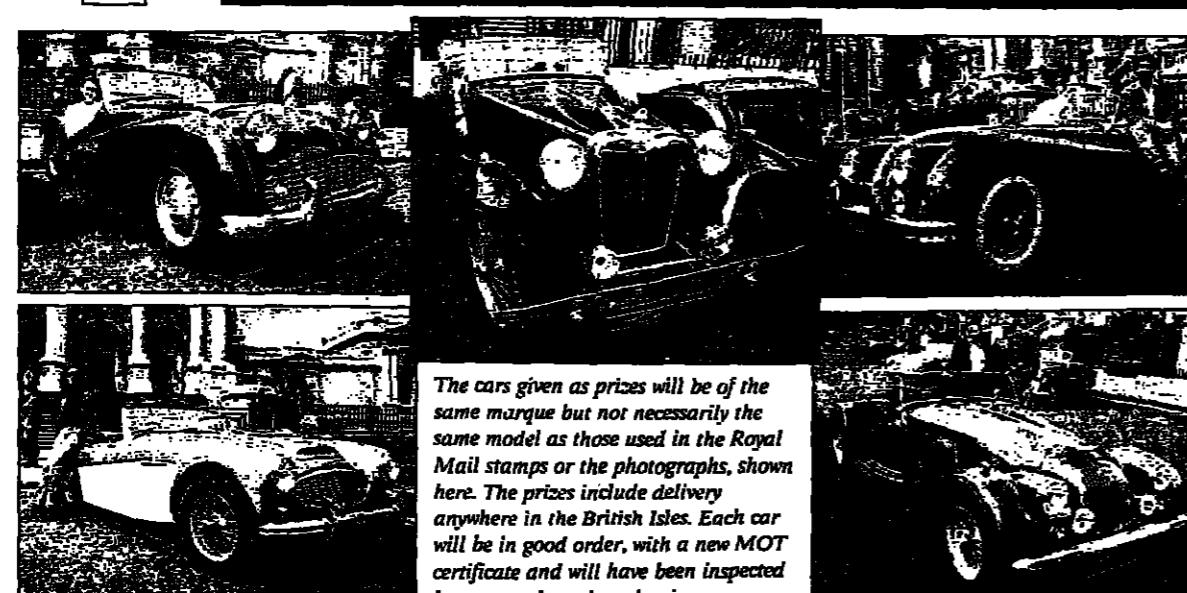
The Student Loans Company can be contacted free on 0800 020 0010.

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FREE limited-edition first day covers

Royal Mail marks British motoring's celebration of two centenaries this year with a set of five special stamps to be launched on Tuesday, October 1, ranging in denominations from 20p to 63p. There is more to a stamp than just an attractive design as 60 million collectors know. An Edward VII sixpenny stamp issued in March 1904 and overprinted with the words IR OFFICIAL, is worth about £85,000 in mint condition.

● Presentation packs, first day covers, postcards, and the Classic Sports Car stamps are available by post from the British Philatelic Bureau: call 0345 641 641 (Mon-Fri); and most Post Offices — for more details call 0345 22 33 44. First day covers are also available from BPCPA: 0181 586 6744.



CHANGING TIMES

New glass university is Lincoln's pride

Campus opens with places to spare for this year's students

views are staggering. Mr Ridings looked out of a giant wall of glass and pointed at Lincoln Cathedral.

He said: "Roger Gough, the Vice-Chancellor, looked down from there six years ago and had a vision. Now we are standing in it. This is a university for the millennium, equipped for the challenges of the 21st century.

"We are different from other universities because we have everything. Brand new systems will support learning and everything is state-of-the-art. We do not need to bolt anything on because we are the cutting edge of learning and technology."

The university's commitment to information technology and ties with local business are second to none and this is good news to students worried about employment prospects.

The business community has been in on the project from the start. Back in 1990 the local branch of the Confederation of British Industry called for the establishment of a university in Lincoln to act as a manager for industry and to stop the brain drain of bright Lincolnians to other university towns.

Business leaders set up a project company and finally, in the early spring of 1995, they came to an agreement

with the University of Humberstone.

Deborah Hirst, 18, from Huddersfield, is thrilled that she will be one of the first students at the new university. Deborah accepted Lincoln's offer of a place on their international tourism course after visiting the city in March.

She will be staying in one of the seven halls of residence that look more like holiday villas than student accommodation.

She says: "It's really exciting. The location is brilliant. I haven't been on to the campus but I could see it being built.

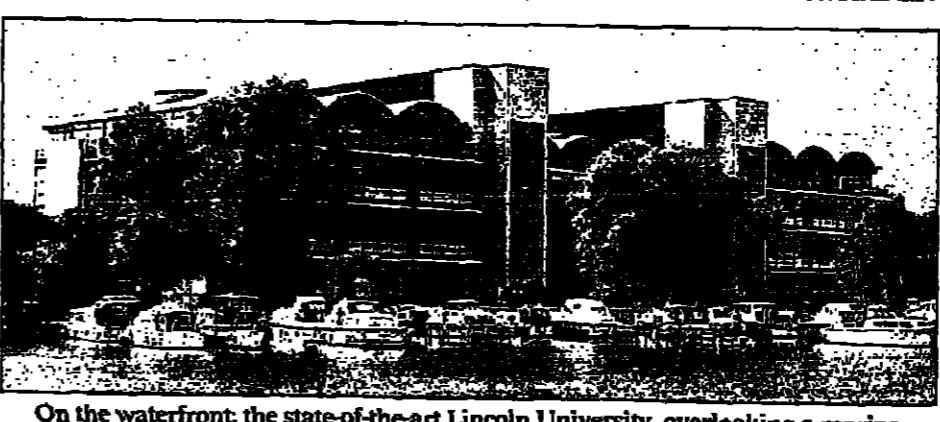
"They showed us videos and pamphlets and it looked amazing. It's very important to me to have good study areas with lots of light and Lincoln has that.

"I also want to continue studying information technology and that is the central focus of the university. It's very modern. It really appeals to me to make a new start at a new university."

International tourism is one of a wide choice of degree subjects which the university plans to expand over the next five years. In 1996 students can choose between criminology, health studies, humanities, international studies and management. Next year the law school opens and will be accompanied by a host of other options.

There are still undergraduate places available through clearing and the university is advertising widely to attract the right students.

CHRISTOPHER HADLEY



On the waterfront: the state-of-the-art Lincoln University, overlooking a marina

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■ FILM 1
At the Venice Festival, Neil Jordan carries off the Golden Lion with Michael Collins



■ FILM 2
... while Jane Campion offers a strange Henry James adaptation, *The Portrait of a Lady*



■ MUSIC 1
Why classical composers such as Sir Peter Maxwell Davies don't win the Mercury Prize



■ MUSIC 2
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VENICE FILM FESTIVAL: David Robinson is as bemused as ever by the perversity of a cinema jury's decisions

Floored by an Irish patriot

A film festival jury is an unpredictable animal. With ice-skating or ballroom dancing everything is cut and dried and categorised (technique, artistic interpretation and the rest). Films, and opinions about them, are not so tidy. Even if you can confidently second-guess which films are likely to seduce the individual jury members (this year they included Roman Polanski, Anjelica Huston, the American writer Paul Auster and the father of African cinema, Souleymane Cisse), their collective decisions often surprise themselves as much as anyone else.

No one, for instance, really expected that the Venice Golden Lion would go to the Irish-American entry, *Michael Collins*, directed by Neil Jordan. Without question it is an exemplary piece of filmcraft, with sweep and colour, a taut script and solid acting; but neither is biopic nor as political drama does it pretend to the kind of originality and innovation for which one hopes at Venice. For an international audience this story of an Irish freedom fighter does not even have the political piquancy with which it teases the British. Liam Neeson's Best Actor prize for his performance in the title role must have slightly consoled him for having spent most of the festival in a Parma hospital having an intestinal obstruction cleared.

The award of the Best Actress prize to four-year-old Vickie Thivisol — who becomes the youngest person ever to win a festival prize for her playing of the title role in Jacques Duvillon's *Ponetie* — was widely regarded as perverse, with such actresses as Julie Roberts, Isabella Rossellini and several more exotic stars in the running.

Still, the prize justly acknowledges that the child could not have produced a performance of such startling conviction without long hours of concentration, acute instinct — and, we are reassured, a psychiatrist in constant attendance. *Ponetie* loses her mother in a car accident, and the film shows her solitary means of dealing with the catastrophe, by denying it.

The runner-up prizes always give away the films that figured in the jury's final, toughest wrangles. The maverick Georgian, Otar Yoseliani, took the Special Grand Prix of the Jury for *Brigands* — for its brilliant irony; and bitter comment on the misuse of Utopia. Funny, sardonic and a shade too long, Yoseliani's philosophical fantasy

moves the same group of characters through different periods of history — the "chivalrous" Middle Ages, the revolution, the Stalinist era, the chaos and ethnic warring of the Nineties.

The Mexican Arturo Ripstein's *Deep Crimson* took three prizes, for script, design and music. Perhaps the most original director currently at work in Latin America, Ripstein presents a tough, blackly comic picture of the *amour fou* of a plump, plain woman and an ageing gigolo who embark on a murderous partnership.

Jane Campion's *The Portrait of a Lady* would undoubtedly have set the jury a challenge; but it was shown out of competition. Its reception was mixed, with some critics ready to claim it as the best film so far by the director of *An Angel at My Table* and *The Piano*, and others roundly booing it at

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monotonously unvaried rhythm and tone; and to shoot the conversational scenes in dark, loosely composed close-ups. No less odd is the way these dialogue scenes are punctuated by scene interludes which often seem quite perfunctory in the editing. The suspicion lingers that she has overcompensated in her eagerness to avoid the decorative comforts of a Merchant-Ivory literary classic.

Other Australasian directors came to Venice with first films that are evidently bound for instant success. Scott Hicks's *Shine* is the touching real-life story of the Australian pianist David Helfgott (played by Geoffrey Rush), whose career was interrupted by a decade in mental institutions. Two great actors personify the father-figures in his life: Armin Mueller-Stahl plays his real father, a Polish Jew whose Holocaust experiences left him with a destructive obsession to keep the family under one roof. As his surrogate father, a tutor at the Royal College of Music, John Gielgud offers a stunning interpretation of the teacher-student bond.

Love and Other Catastrophes, a first film by 23-year-old Emma-Kate Croghan, started out as a no-budget film, ended up with modest completion funding from the Australian Film Commission and is already selling well around the world. On the surface it is just a daff college film, with the usual heartbreaks, flatmates and clashes with academia. But Croghan has the advantage of a passion for Thirties Hollywood screwball comedy, and her film is full of clever movie references.

From Britain, Ken Loach's *Carla's Song* was awarded a Gold Medal of the President of the Senate of the Italian Republic, as "a film which emphasises civil progress and human solidarity". Like Loach's *Land and Freedom* it is the story of a British working man who gets involved with the leftwing struggle in a distant land — in this case an independent-minded Glasgow bus driver is inspired by an encounter with a young refugee to fly to Eighties Nicaragua.

Other films asserted peculiarly British qualities. Philip Goodwin's debut feature, *Intimate Relations*, revises another of those news stories of the 1990s that British film-makers love: the conviction of Harold Guppy, a none-too-bright but probably innocent seaman (admirably played by Rupert

Graves) for the murder of a sexually possessive landlady (Julie Walters).

At the other end of the social scale, Ferdinand Fairfax's *True Blue* is (though the makers strenuously deny it) in the tradition of *Chariots of Fire*, with muscles and music straining together. Based on the book by the veteran Oxford

boat crew trainer Daniel Topolski, the film dramatises the famous attempted mutiny of 1987, fomented by a nucleus of American rowers incautiously imported to improve Oxford's chances.

At festivals there is no film without at least some champions: even the latest Jean-Luc Godard, *For Ever Mozart*, received a prize

from some obscure movie magazine. Godard dispatches a group of his usual bizarre, abstract characters into war-torn Sarajevo, where amid the gunfire and atrocities, they plan to mount a play.

Godard even presented the world premiere in Sarajevo; as if, someone said, they didn't have enough trouble already.

Truly poetic and vulgar

WHEN it comes to comparing such high-quality ensembles as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic — all three of which have been heard in Britain in the last three or four weeks — it becomes a matter not so much of how they play as of how they are made to play. With orchestras like that a good conductor can achieve just about anything. But neither Christoph von Dohnányi nor Kurt Masur achieved anything as wonderfully effective as did Daniel Barenboim in Elgar's *Falstaff* with the Chicago Symphony.

Following an itinerary which, with any luck, will become more or less standard for visiting orchestras of this kind, the Chicago Symphony is in Britain to give concerts in Symphony Hall, at the Proms and in the new Bridgewater Hall. For Birmingham and Manchester — mindful, of course, of his early experience in this country, not least his relationship with Barbirolli in the Sixties — Barenboim has armed his orches-

CONCERTS

Chicago Symphony Orchestra/Barenboim
Birmingham

tra not only with *Falstaff* but also with two Elgar encores. They play these scores as though they had been brought up with them, if without the bad habits.

The Chicago *Falstaff*'s outstanding in its characterisation: it is as alive to the poetic nostalgia as to the vulgarities, to the pastoral idyll as to the brawling, to the pathos as to the swagger. And yet it was all achieved by scrupulous attention to the letter of the score, with no exaggeration or distortion. Except in one or two passages overloaded by the brass in the early stages, balance was so well adjusted and so firmly sustained that there was a fascinatingly abundant accumulation of detail — always precisely observed and in proportion to the main thrust of the interpretation. This was a *Falstaff* as true in its colouring, as vividly realised in its textures, as compassionate in its emotional motivation as anyone, surely, could wish to hear.

Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony after the interval provoked the encores and got the audience to its feet, a brilliant performance lacking neither in commitment nor, in spite of the occasional wobble, in supreme orchestral skill.

GERALD LARNER



Nicole Kidman in Jane Campion's *The Portrait of a Lady*, which drew both boos and applause

SPECIAL OFFER

THE TIMES

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Off the beaten tracks

Helen Wallace, a Mercury Music Prize judge, on why awards go to pop stars, never classical musicians



Only by adopting an album-friendly format can Peter Maxwell Davies (left) and James MacMillan succeed

Because it was not the best British composition of the year we were judging, but the best album — and that is the point at which the two musical worlds part company.

Pop grew up with the recording industry in a symbiotic relationship. Albums are made as artistic entities; an album is the result of a creative partnership between the band and a producer; albums feed live gigs.

Yet classical music has never quite come to terms with the album. A concert is a concert which presents a menu of contrasting forms, styles and often time-periods. A CD is a document of record. Compilation discs may be legion but, crafted, programmed albums are rare.

Composers do not write with an album in mind, they

otherwise would be to undermine the already fragile and extremely expensive basis of live classical music.

Only a fraction of what is composed will ever reach a CD because the hard commercial truth is that discs of contemporary music sell in hundreds rather than thousands. But this situation is exacerbated by the trend of companies to "sign" with a single living composer, as one might sign up a recording artist, who "represents" the company's commitment to contemporary music. They may be marketed like pop artists but the disc content is informed by longer-term goals. In archive terms, they are creating a precious resource, as Decca's recordings with Britten stand testament.

But the Mercury Music

ach 70-plus minutes of one unfamiliar composer. And who can blame them?

The irony is that it is this laudable commitment to a few composers that has prevented more British music from being imaginatively marketed. Companies locked into deals cannot break their exclusive contracts to combine works by three or four composers and make a well-programmed disc like the many successful collections issued of Scandinavian and Russian music.

Yet British classical music is in a golden age: close on the heels of established figures Goehr, Maw, Diana Burrell, Judith Weir, Sally Beamish, Colin and David Matthews are newcomers Julian Anderson, Gavin Thomas, Thomas Adès, David Horne — how many years do we have to wait to hear their music? Must we rely on the smallest independents such as NMC, who could not even afford to risk the £10 it costs to enter an album in the Mercury Music Prize competition?

There is a lesson to be learned from previous shortlisted entries. Tavener's *Protecting Veil* was coupled with Britten's Third Cello Suite; James MacMillan's *Seven Last Words* began life as a BBC Radio commission to run in six or seven-minute slots; Maxwell Davies's two works operate as suites. All the above are, to an extent, entities which suit the album format.

There is an audience for classical albums out there. And somewhere between the earnest document of record and the cheap compilation there is an imaginative album that truly represents the eclectic spirit of the age waiting to be made. Not just for the Mercury Prize for all of us.

• To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barbirolli Road, London W10 6BL or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

VERDI'S RIGOLETTO

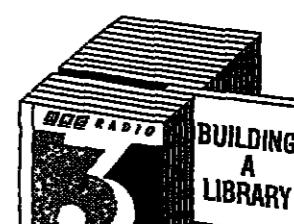
reviewed by John Steane

FOR a long time now, *Rigoletto* on records has meant first and foremost Gobbi and Callas. They made their famous recording in 1955, with Serafin conducting the orchestra and chorus of La Scala. It came from what we now see as the classic combination assembled at the period of its prime. Gobbi's performance in the title role is still supreme; vivid and deeply moving, in just the way Verdi wanted and, despite some roughness of style, beautiful and irreplaceable in the sheer quality of his voice. Callas's singing is a triumph of the chameleon's art; the role is not hers by nature, but she adapts both herself and the conventional idea of it and creates something new. The recording has its place in the library, now as ever. But for *Rigoletto*, the full score with its realisation distributed evenly among all the participants, we need to look elsewhere.

I make for the 1980 recording under Giulini (DG 415 282-2, 2 CD, £23.95). There are plenty of others to consider, from 1971 with Sutherland, Pavarotti and Milnes, conducted by Bonynge. Muti's "live" recordings won't do, I find: partly a matter of the singing, partly of his own rigid approach.

There is an audience for classical albums out there. And somewhere between the earnest document of record and the cheap compilation there is an imaginative album that truly represents the eclectic spirit of the age waiting to be made. Not just for the Mercury Prize for all of us.

• The Mercury Music Prize is on



BUILDING A LIBRARY

oldest in date (1928) and youngest-sounding of all: Lina Pagliughi; the *Rigoletto* of Fischer-Dieskau is also in a class of its own. And perhaps it is worth mentioning that the English National Opera version with the original cast of the Jonathan Miller production is not currently available or that would be up for consideration.

The great merit of the Giulini recording is that it plumbs the work's depth. The cast is distinguished and works at a high level. Cotrubas is probably the best Gilda on record: her imagination catching just that balance of fragility and strength which the role requires. Domingo as the Duke brings a glory of tone along with genuine commitment and aristocracy of presence. Cappuccilli's *Rigoletto* avoids any cheapening touch, and Ghiaurov's *Rigoletto* is also worth going some distance to hear.

Above all, it is the sense of direction that counts. The Vienna Philharmonic plays superbly, with warmth and clarity, while the old melodrama refreshes its energies and discovers a new dignity.

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■ CHOICE 1
Michael Tippett's superb *Rose Lake* is played at the Proms
VENUE: Tonight at the Albert Hall



■ CHOICE 2
Janet McTeer leads the cast in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*
VENUE: This week at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle



■ THEATRE 1
New plays galore: London's theatres open their doors to the work of young playwrights



■ THEATRE 2
... while a touring Japanese staging of *Bluebeard's Castle* offers an evening of much enigma

LONDON

BBC PROMS 96: At 7pm, Andrew Davis conducts the BBC's evocation of St Michael Tippett's evocation of a Sengoku landscape, *The Rose Lake*, which is complemented by Sibelius's popular Fifth Symphony. Staged by the Royal Opera House, the 15-year-old violinist Sarah Chang joins the orchestra for Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 1. In a late-night programme (10pm), Philippe Herreweghe conducts the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra's *Collage Vocale*. Ghent, in a cantata, a motet and a mass by Bach. Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-889 8212) Tonight.

CELLO RECITAL: Julian Lloyd Webber and his son, Daniel, play Beethoven's *Adagio in G*, Faure's *Elégie* and Grieg's *Sonata A minor*, interspersed with sonatas from 1915, by Ravel, Dvorak and Dvorak. Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-835 2141) Tonight, 7.30pm.

THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT: Con O'Neill and Paul Jesson in James Garrow's new play, set in wartime Poland. Directed by John Dove, at the Royal Exchange, 100 Newgate Street, EC1 (0171-722 3321). Opens tonight, 7pm Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 3pm.

ELSEWHERE: BRIGHTON: Music Theatre London takes its updated interpretation of *Die Fledermaus* on the road to London, prior to a four-week season at the Old Hall, London, from October 29. The

THEATRE'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

company's Oliver Award-nominated production of *Die Fledermaus* will play tonight until next week, while its gritty production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* will play on Friday and Saturday. Both operas are translated by Tony Britton and directed by Michael Colledge. Theatre Royal, New Road (0171-334 889), Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm. Mat. Sat, 2.45pm. Not in Broadway, South Hill Park Arts Centre (01344 484123) Sept 19-21.

BUXTON: Following its London success at the Open Air Theatre, English National Opera's production of *Pagliacci* returns to the country. Staged by James Gurney and Lucy Stirling, it combines earthy, energetic playing with Tony Salvo and Claire Currie. Directed by Ian Talbot. Opera House, Water Street (01298 722 000), Sat, 7.30pm. Mat. Sat, 2.30pm. Next Sat, Dartington, Devon (01325 495555), Sept 17-21.

NEWCASTLE: Janet McTeer leads an outstanding cast, which includes Owen Teale and John Castle, in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. A new production by the company's young ensemble, it conceals desire, deception and frustrated ambitions. Directed by Anthony Page

Theatre Royal, 100 Grey Street (0191-232 2001). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Thurs, 4pm, Sat, 3pm.

PLYMOUTH: The English Opera Company's 15-week tour of *Die Fledermaus* launches at the Royal Opera House, Plymouth, on Friday, with a double-bill. *Endgame*, one of the definitive plays of modern theatre, is a welcome addition to the Company's canon. In the midst of a difficult relationship, the characters cut out the remnants of their existence. Hamm and Clov, whose relationship is based on mutual need and mutual negotiation, are complemented by Hamm's sister, Nelly, who provides gentle reminders of their lives. In an intriguing pairing with *Endgame*, Knapp's *Last Tango* is a lyrical lament on the dog days of a relationship, one man and a kept woman. Both productions are directed by Neil Sason, with designs by Lynn Dohm.

Drury Lane Theatre Royal, Rose Parade (0171-922 2222). Thurs, 7.45pm, mat. Sat, 2.45pm. Not in Broadway, South Hill Park Arts Centre (01344 484123) Sept 19-21.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: David Le Marchand, very carving (0171-366 1555).

Currier Gallery: British Prints from the Tudor to the Victorian Centuries (0171-366 1499).

Design Museum: 100 Masterpieces: furniture made from the 20th Century (0171-378 8055).

Festival Hall: Imagined Communities (0171-424 2424).

Imperial War Museum: Art of War (0171-231 1222).

National Portrait Gallery: Literary Portraits (0171-303 0056).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, return only
■ Some seats available
■ Seats at all prices

9987 Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ MAREN GUERRE: The latest Boublil/Schonberg musical brings balm to a contiguously cold tale.

Playhouse, 55 Drury Lane, St. WI (0171-447 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

■ A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Yuki Niinagawa's company give 12 performances of its latest Shakespeare production *Spoken in Japanese*.

Miners' Hall, Pudding Dock, Blackfriars, EC4 (0171-236 2211). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Until September 14.

■ THE ODD COUPLE: Neil Simon's play works well, but Jack Klugman and Tony Randall are getting on a bit these days.

Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-330 8800). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8pm; mat. Thurs, 8pm, Sat, 5pm.

■ PENTIMENTO: Stephen Parker's fine play, and his last one of the best of the many written about modern *Blast*. Lynne Parker directs. Rough Magic's

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■ THEATRE GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of film in London and (where indicated with the symbol *) on release across the country

9987 Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 3pm.

■ THE PROMISE (15). A love story divided by the Berlin Wall. Dulwich, with Corin Redgrave and August Zemmel.

Citizen Phoenix (0171-365 1721) Phoenix (0181-885 2233).

CURRENT

■ THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (16). Victor Hugo meets the Disney animators. A perverse, and pervasively successful, mix of the cuddy and the macabre.

Crash (0171-473 4343).

■ TWISTER (PG). Cardboard characters chase lightning. Great special effects, but repetition soars the impact. With Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton. Director: Jan de Bont. (0171-473 4343).

■ INDEPENDENCE DAY (12). Aliens invade America's skies in this outsize

popcorn fest starring Jeff Goldblum, Will Smith and Bill Pullman.

ABC Television Court Road (0171-365 0000). Tues-Sat, 8pm.

■ THE WOMAN IN BLACK (15). A ghostly tale, with Frances McDormand and William H. Macy.

ABC Pictures (0171-365 0051).

Phoenix (0171-365 1220) Phoenix (0171-365 1221).

■ GHOST (15). A haunted mystery thriller, with Helen Hunt and Nick Nolte, and John Mahoney.

ABC Shadwell Avenue (0171-936 6279). MGM Baker Street (0171-935 9772). Nostalgia (0171-737 2121).

■ HOLLOW REED (15). Unseen British drama about child abuse, with Martin Donlevy, Judy Parfitt, and a remarkable performance by Sam Bond. Director: Angela Pepe. Odense Haymarket (01426 915 533) Seats College (0171-940 0600) Virgin Fathoms Road (0171-370 2656).

■ MULHOLLAND FALLS (15). Handsome but muted mystery thriller, with Gillian Anderson and Nick Nolte, and John Mahoney.

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THEATRE: Kate Bassett on a mixed bag at the London New Play Festival. Plus other reviews

Good, bad and ugly

CONRAD BLAKEMORE



Cas Harkins and Jacqueline Britt in Anthony Neilson's macabre comedy, *Hoover Bag*

The London New Play Festival is looking up, having decamped from its former home — the tiny, sweltering Old Red Lion in Islington. This year, three comparatively swish venues (Young Vic, Riverside and Lyric Hammersmith) have opened their studio doors for the LNPF's month of fully-staged shows and readings, discussions and workshops. Production values are also rising, to judge by the five plays at the Young Vic.

The quality of the scripts selected is still uneven. Sara Clifford's *Tongued* should probably have remained so. This semi-poetic multimedia piece about politically persecuted writers may be worthy but does not hit home. Mina (unemotional Kumiko Mendi) is one gleans, a historian refusing to be silenced on the subject of the people's suffering. She is imprisoned in a country the location of which is unclear. It is floating somewhere between the Far and the Middle East, to judge by the costumes, but our jailer's accent lands us in Scotland. Is Edinburgh in the thrall of some Oriental dictatorship?

Anyway, Mina keeps scrapping words in the dust. She is sticking to her principles but at the expense of her family, neither broken by her interrogator nor bending to the demands of her son who feels neglected (both roles played without enough distinction, by Elliot Levey).

Shabnam Shabazi's production is visually striking, framed by blackboards scrawled with chalk (fine design by Roswitha Gerlitz). But arthouse style does not compensate for a lack of convincing grit and grief. Choreographed torture, with victims slapping themselves in the face, verges on the silly. Video projection mixes unconvincingly with overlapping speeches and clinking music.

Anthony Neilson's macabre comedy, *Hoover Bag*, is a killer thriller, with spoof echoes of *Psycho*, set in a futuristic urban jungle infected with BSE. The streets are crawling with shaking looms (Jimmy Gallagher) and black market gypsies (Martin Hancock) whose suitcases are stashed with beefy bits, sold by the gram but costing you an arm and a leg. Inside a little old lady's council flat, the armchairs are disturbingly smoothed in Cellophane, gleaming in the mauve light of two insect zappers (design Jo Joelson).

Neilson, directing

LAW

• YOUTH CRIME AND PUNISHMENT 41

Perverse little parliament

Gary Slapper
questions the
role of the
jury in a
changing world

Rarely does perversity cause people to dance in the streets. But that is what occurred one day this summer outside Liverpool Crown Court.

The jubilation came after a jury acquitted Lotta Kronlid, Joanna Wilson and Andrea Needham of inflicting £1.5 million worth of criminal damage on a British Aerospace Hawk jet, despite clear evidence that they had done so. They and a fourth woman, Angela Zelter, were also acquitted of conspiring to damage the jet. While incredulity, dismay and panic ran through the corridors of the Government and British Aerospace (BAe), supporters of the defendants' Christian peace campaign group celebrated with jigs in the street.

After the verdict, Michael Jack, the Treasury Minister and MP for Fylde, sought urgent talks between the Home Office and the Attorney-General, observing that "the ramifications of the case are... very important in terms of future security, jobs and the question of being able to do damage and getting away with it". Though its form was legalistic, the nature of the women's defence was political, and the jury verdict can be added to a vivid chronicle of cases where "jury equity" has prevailed over a more mechanistic application of the law.

Is trial by jury a desirable and quintessentially British institution or an expensive and dispensable anachronism which, after six centuries of evolution, cannot effectively adapt to modern times? In his book *Trial by Jury* (1968) Lord Devlin hailed the jury as a very important bulwark against autocratic government, "for no tyrant could afford to leave a subject's freedom in the hands of 12 of his countrymen". The institution was, he claimed, "the lamp that shows that freedom lives".

Conversely, some academic writers such as Penny Darbyshire have argued that the jury is not really randomly selected, so that even when it does warrant such a label, it is not representative of the population. And, Dr Darbyshire argues, the extent to which juries have convicted people who subsequently proved to have been not guilty shows that the institution does not merit the eulogies it often receives.

When a range of cases during any given period is examined, there is undoubtedly an unpredictability about those that will result in a defiant jury verdict. The three women who admitted break-



Media celebrities, free, after damaging a Hawk jet: Andrea Needham, left, Lotta Kronlid, Angela Zelter and Joanna Wilson

ing into a BAe plant near Preston, Lancashire, and using hammers to damage a Hawk ZH955, argued that their otherwise criminal acts were subject to the lawful excuse that they were avoiding a greater crime: genocide. Committing a crime to prevent a (usually) greater crime is permitted under Section 3 of the Criminal Law Act 1967, which provides that a person may use "such force as is reasonable in all the circumstances in the prevention of crime".

Misleading evidence from forensic scientists or police officers can and has fooled the system

Genocide is a crime under English law by virtue of the Genocide Act 1969, which covers killing members of national, ethnic, racial or religious group with intent to destroy that group wholly or partly.

The peace activists, members of the organisation Ploughshare, pointed out that the Hawk was due to be sold, as one of a consignment of 24, to the Indonesian Government. They contended that the jet would be used against the civilian population of East Timor as part of a genocidal attack on the people of that island. The former Portuguese colony was forcibly annexed by Indonesia in 1975, and Amnesty International esti-

mate that the Indonesians have since killed about a third of the population.

The women had left a video film in the Hawk's cockpit, explaining their actions. It included footage of the Dili massacre in 1991, when Indonesian troops shot 291 civilians. The Indonesian Government had given assurances that the Hawks would not be used against the East Timorese, and the British Government said that an export licence had been granted be-

sticks and wheelchairs. Sex was said to have been paid for with money or even Luncheon Vouchers. Several police officers collected evidence about the parties by amending them under assumed identities. The detailed and often lurid evidence they gave in court was the source of some hilarity in the public gallery and the trial judge stated in his summing-up to the jury that the case was "a criminal trial, not a form of entertainment". The jury acquitted Ms Payne in the teeth of all the evidence.

In a grimmer context, the jury verdict in the case of Stephen Owen is similarly open to question. Mr Owen's 12-year-old son was run down and killed by a lorry driver who, it transpired, had never taken a driving test, had a long criminal record for drink-driving and violence and was blind in one eye.

He was reputed not to have shown any remorse for killing the boy. The driver was convicted of a driving offence and, having been released from an 18-month sentence after 12 months, promptly returned to driving his lorry unlawfully. In outrage and grief, and having met with no response from letters to all sorts of authorities, Mr Owen got a shotgun and shot the lorry driver, injuring him. He was prosecuted in 1992 for a variety of offences, including attempted murder, but, in the face of all the evidence against him, was acquitted by the jury.

Cases that can be seen as illustrating an "heroic" jury

risk of being sold. The commission says: "Museum collections remain vulnerable to damaging and often shortsighted decisions by the members of governing bodies into whose hands they have been placed."

Shy lawyers
AS THE English Bar reviews its cab-rank rule, perhaps it should consider events in Belgium. Marc Dutroux, a suspect in the horrific kidnapping and murder of children there, cannot find a lawyer prepared to defend him. Belgian lawyers can refuse for "personal reasons".

George Carle, a partner at the Brussels law firm De Caluwé & Dierckx, says: "It is probably better for the client if a lawyer declines to act in these circumstances. They would not do a good job."

There is, however, a suspicion that some lawyers have backed off because they fear future clients will boycott them. If no one volunteers, the Belgian Bar's president will have to appoint a lawyer.

SCRIVENOR

In vitro case to resume

A COURT battle to prevent a frozen human embryo being destroyed is due to resume on Friday.

The Allied Lawyers Response Team (ALERT) is fighting the case on behalf of a woman whose estranged husband would not sign a consent form to allow the embryo to be stored longer than the statutory maximum five-year period.

ALERT, a network of 24 solicitors' firms, secured a three-week emergency restraining order on the eve of the deadline at the beginning of August.

Graham Ross, the head of ALERT, says: "Our case concerns the interpretation of a wording in the regulations as it relates to 'consent'. There will be other cases in which people may have a legitimate complaint to the effect that either they or the donor were not located in time owing to lack of adequate steps being taken by the clinic."

Court praised
THE magistrates' court at Redbridge, London, has borrowed an idea from the entertainment world in an effort to improve its service. It has designated one of its court clerks as a front-of-house officer to ensure that everything runs smoothly outside the courtroom. The initiative has certainly impressed HM Magistrates' Courts Service

Inspectorate, which has just issued a report on Redbridge and singles out the initiative for praise.

"Overall," it adds, "the treatment of court users was found to be courteous and helpful," although it criticises the courts for having a slow case turnover.

Art sales worry
CHARITY, company and trust lawyers are being encouraged to respond to a consultation paper drawn up by the Museums and Galleries Commission on the legal status of museum collections in the United Kingdom.

The document is the commission's response to the sale of works of art from museums or other public collections in order to raise money.

The commission has noted a "worrying" increase in such sales and suggests various ways of securing greater legal protection for works of art at

QUEEN'S COUNSEL



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DIY lawyers can be fools unto themselves

The recent Old Bailey rape trial, in which the defendant represented himself and cross-examined the victim for six days, demonstrates the problems posed for the legal system by litigants in person. There is a strong case for compelling defendants in some criminal trials to be represented by a lawyer, in their own interests, as well as in the interests of others.

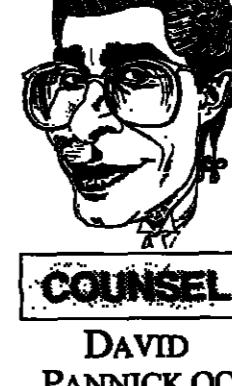
Judges who have to deal with people who represent themselves in court typically experience the kind of frustration expressed by the Supreme Court of New South Wales in a 1975 judgment. The litigant in person had "spent some time reading to the court disconnected statements as to the law from a series of cards, some of which had no significant relationship to the issues in the proceeding". The judgment in this Australian case added that "indications from individual members of the court that these readings were of no assistance in determining the appeal appeared to have no effect upon his manner of conducting the proceedings".

It is far from easy for a judge to restrain the verbosity of a litigant in person. Indeed, attempts to do so may prolong the delay. The possible problems are illustrated in a judgment by Lord Justice Woolf for the Court of Appeal in 1987, dismissing an appeal against conviction for burglary. Lord Justice Woolf commented that the manner in which the defendant had represented himself had "caused intense difficulty for the very experienced trial judge and grossly prolonged the proceedings". The prosecutor made his opening speech in less than ten minutes, and the witnesses for the prosecution gave their evidence in chief for little more than one hour. However, the antics of the defendant resulted in the trial extending over 38 days.

It is unlikely that the House of Lords today would show the same patience as their predecessors did in 1869 when listening to a litigant in person argue her case for 23 days. In his judgment, Lord Chancellor Hatherley referred to her argument as having been "conducted with the greatest possible ability during the first three or four days of the discussion when all, I think, was said that fairly could be said upon the subject".

However, the problems remain of how to promote efficiency and fairness when a litigant argues a case in person, in a civil or criminal court.

In English law, defendants in a criminal trial have the right to represent themselves. The Court of Criminal Appeal held in 1943 that "no person charged with a criminal offence can have counsel forced upon him against his will", and so allowed an appeal



because of the "injustice" to a defendant whose objections to being represented by counsel had been overruled by an assistant recorder. The same conclusion was reached by the Supreme Court of Canada in 1948, and by the United States Supreme Court in 1975 (by six votes to three). But the reasoning in these cases is unconvincing.

It is in the interests of defendants in criminal trials to require that they be represented by counsel. In the US Supreme Court, Justice Blackman's dissent pointed out that "if there is any truth to the old proverb that 'one who is his own lawyer has a fool for a client', the court by its opinion today now bestows a *constitutional* right on one to be made a fool of himself". Society would not allow people to carry out delicate brain surgery on themselves. There is no reason why they should be allowed to conduct criminal trials on their own behalf.

Even if there were some argument from the perspective of the defendant for allowing self-representation, the interests of the individual are greatly outweighed by the interests of the witnesses, and society, that a criminal trial be conducted efficiently and competently, so that guilty persons are convicted and the innocent acquitted.

As Peter Duffy, a barrister specialising in European human rights law, pointed out in the correspondence column of this newspaper on August 29, the European Court of Human Rights addressed this issue in 1992. In *Croissant v Germany*, the court noted that German law allowed the State to require a defendant to be represented by counsel, and that such a provision "finds parallels in the legislation of other contracting states". The court concluded that such statutory provisions "cannot be deemed incompatible with" the European Convention on Human Rights. The wishes of the defendant are certainly a relevant factor. But they may be overridden by the State where this is necessary in the interests of justice.

Strong arguments can be made in favour of amending the law to confer on the trial judge a power to require a defendant in criminal proceedings to accept legal aid for the purposes of being defended by counsel, where the interests of justice so require, having regard to the nature of the alleged offence and the complexity of the issues.

A defendant facing an allegation of rape should not be cross-examining his alleged victim.

• The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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Young criminals: new ways forward

Paula Davies reports on schemes to help to rehabilitate children in trouble with the law — and they are working

Youth courts are dealing with many more violent offenders than did the old juvenile courts. Though cases of murder perpetrated by youngsters are rare, carrying a knife "for protection" is now almost commonplace among adolescents. Some have even taken weapons to court.

This week a conference will be held in London to launch *Children Who Kill*, whose publication has been organised by the British Juvenile and Family Courts Society.

The Government's answer to the problem is to lock the youngsters up. The first Boot Camp has just opened and the recent White Paper — *Protecting the Public* — reflects the Home Secretary's continuing belief in the deterrent effect of prison.

What is fascinating, meanwhile, is what is going on at the grass roots of policing in this country, where the police officer is returning to being a keeper of the peace in the community rather than solely an enforcer of the law.

The two-year experience in Hartlepool, where the police are on the streets preventing antisocial behaviour, has led to a big drop in crime figures for the town. Community policing is also the idea behind the latest treatment of young offenders that the Thames Valley force has just started. Along with a pioneering victim compensation scheme in Hackney, east London, these developments could herald a more positive way of preventing crime and dealing with young criminals.

More than 60 members of police forces have now completed a course in the Thames Valley. Terry O'Connell from New South Wales has been teaching them the value of what are called Restorative Cautions and Interventions, which involve not only the offender and his family, but also the victims. "What we have to do," he said, "is to change the formal justice system in a way that better reflects the needs of victims, offenders and their respective communities."

Giving examples of the Australian experiments, he claims that, within the

local community, police were able to negotiate a diversionary model of dealing with offenders and their victims in which the local people were prepared to participate. The Restorative version concentrates on the harm that has resulted from the offence rather than the fact that the offence is against the law.

It was John Braithwaite, an Australian criminologist, who argued that the most effective form of social control is to confront a wrongdoer by involving people who are important in his life, which can shame him into acceptable behaviour. The victims' feelings are brought into the discussion, along with those of the offender's close relations.

Of course, I can hear the scoffing at such woolly, liberal ideas. Yet the experiment — started in 1991 — has been remarkably successful. An evaluation of the first two years showed a 50 per cent reduction in the number of cases before the court and a 95 per cent compliance by offenders with agreements on behaviour. Participation by victims has, like their degree of satisfaction, been high. They apparently want not so

much monetary compensation as a proper apology.

One of the most imaginative schemes for victim compensation has been set up in Hackney. Here Stephen Richards, head of the Intermediate Treatment and Bail Support Scheme, started a system whereby persistent young offenders do work experience that will also compensate their victims.

It has been running effectively for 18 months and provides work at £2 an hour. The maximum allowed is £12 a day, of which £6 goes to the victim, either through a Compensation Order or the local Victim Support organisation. All the work is done for the local authority or charities willing to employ the young offenders.

The 16 and 17-year-olds I met were decorating a flat for community use and, not surprisingly, were happy to be there rather than in custody. "At least," said a boy of 16, "it teaches us something useful." Having been sentenced to two months' youth custody, he was sent on the course by the Court



These young offenders are working to compensate their victims

of Appeal, which obviously thought it a valuable alternative to custody. He has paid compensation to his victim and is "actually learning a trade", which should help him.

Lack of education is also being remedied. Mr Richards has obtained funding for a teacher to set up a programme to assess the offenders' needs and to give support and encouragement to help them to move back into education.

Unlike the police scheme, there is no contact with victims. Mr Richards believes that provided there is recompence for them, this is enough. "Not all

victims and not all offenders are suitable for actual contact," he says. "And we don't allow the offenders to work on anybody's home, either — for obvious reasons — and the same goes for cars."

It is too early to monitor reoffending rates, but attendances are higher than for other projects and breach procedures are lower than for programmes run without a compensation element.

Straws in the wind? Many people may think so. Yet these schemes could be the bricks to build a better system of justice for everyone.

• The author is a magistrate.

Cases when children kill inevitably attract media attention. This can easily create the false impression that the number of such cases is rapidly rising. But what are the facts? In the 15 years from 1979 to 1994, 210 young people aged under 17 in England and Wales were convicted of murder and 220 of manslaughter.

More than half of these killings were committed by 17-year-olds. Few involved children under 14; eight of them were convicted of murder and four of manslaughter.

The figures fluctuate from year to year. In the first five years covered by the figures, the yearly number of homicides by those under 18 averaged 29; in the most recent five-year period, 1990-94, it was 25.

Many contributory factors can produce the types of disturbance that lead children to kill. These include physical abuse; sexual abuse; exposure to repetitive or extreme violence, including witnessing such violence; parental mental disturbance; parental rejection; neurological abnormalities; drug abuse; and, in some cases, mental illness.

The combination of factors differs in each individual case. Though homicides by children are relatively rare, these conditions, unhelpfully, are not. Many other children may therefore be potentially capable of killing. The conjunction of such factors with other circumstances (such as the friendship of two young people with complementary disturbed personalities or in adolescence the escalation of behaviour through gang participation) can result in homicides that would not otherwise have taken place.

Procedures for dealing with juvenile killers differ markedly throughout Europe. In Britain the age of criminal responsibility is unusually low by European standards in England and Wales it is ten, and children accused of murder or manslaughter are

tried and sentenced by the Crown Court. In the Bulger case, most foreign commentators agreed that two 11-year-olds should be dealt with by an adult-style criminal trial. Many observers questioned whether such young children could comprehend the complexities of a long criminal trial, whether they should have appeared in the full glare of media coverage and whether it was right for the boys' names to be reported after conviction, with the diffi-

culties this would pose for their rehabilitation.

Other European practitioners are also startled by our system whereby juveniles found guilty of murder receive mandatory sentences of detention during Her Majesty's pleasure and by ministerial involvement in the sentencing process. At the beginning of the sentence the Home Secretary sets a minimum "tariff" period. (In the Bulger case, the Home Secretary notoriously set a 15-year tariff, although the trial judge and the Lord Chief Justice had recommended eight and ten years respectively.)

At the end of the tariff period, the Parole Board considers the case and can recommend release to the Home Secretary, who is not currently bound to accept the recommendation. Since the European Court of Human Rights' recent *Hussain v. United Kingdom* judgment, the Government will have to alter the system for making release decisions, removing the Home Secretary from the process.

This will not, however, affect the procedure for setting tariffs (to be the subject of future decisions by the House of Lords and the European Court). These are effectively sentencing decisions, yet they are made by a politician without a hearing and with no right of appeal. When politicians make such decisions, there is risk that they will be influenced by electoral considerations and media pressure.

In most European countries, under-14s who commit offences do not appear before the criminal courts. They are dealt with by family courts concerned with the need for compulsory measures of care. In France the age of criminal responsibility is 13; in Germany, Austria and Italy it is 14; in the Scandinavian countries 15; in Spain and Portugal 16 and in Belgium 18. In Eastern Europe, it ranges between 14 and 16. Only France and Holland have indeterminate sentences for convicted juveniles; and in both countries judges regularly review such sentences.

Other European systems are not without blemish. But at a European conference organised by the British Juvenile and Family Courts Society, other countries' delegates regarded our system for dealing with children who kill as extreme.

It fails to meet the needs of disturbed juveniles, fails to meet the requirements of natural justice and fails society by hampering the provision of treatment that can help these young people to overcome their violent tendencies. Its replacement with an approach geared to the needs of seriously disturbed children is overdue.

• The author is chair of the *Penal Affairs Consortium*, an alliance of organisations concerned with the penal system. He is the editor of *Children Who Kill* (Waterloo Press, pub. this month, £16 plus £1.50 p&p). Details: 01962 855567.

COMPANY SECRETARY/ LEGAL ADVISER

The Mayflower Corporation plc is a profitable, growth orientated, international Engineering/Automotive company. Turnover has more than doubled in three years and is now approaching £300 million.

They now wish to recruit a suitably qualified candidate to provide a full Company Secretarial and Legal Advisory Service to the Group. Reporting to the Group Finance Director and liaising with the Group's external legal advisors, you would be expected to provide legal advice on a wide range of business issues including property, insurance, acquisitions, contracts and all compliance matters.

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Vickers PLC is a substantial engineering business with a diverse portfolio of world-renowned products including Rolls Royce and Bentley motor cars, Cosworth high-efficiency automotive engines, defence systems and equipment, marine propulsion systems, components for the aerospace and automotive industries and medical equipment.

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Reporting to the Company Secretary, you will be responsible for providing a full PLC secretarial service to the Board, assisting with the production of the annual report and accounts, providing assistance and guidance on share schemes, attending and taking minutes at committee meetings and also be capable of deputising for the Company Secretary.

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Prefably 2-5 years qualified, you will have extensive non-contentious experience within the media and communications sector, with particular exposure to telecoms and broadcasting regulations. Commercially is essential, as this department boasts one of the most important array of high profile clients - you will be expected to take meetings, actively market, and attend seminars. Medium sized firm with impressively state of the art premises.

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£34,000+

Highly motivated and commercially minded young lawyer with 1-3 years' pg gained in leading London or regional firm now eagerly sought by forward looking City firm with a close-knit team. You will have the opportunity of continuing to act closely for venture capitalists, investors and banks in range of high profile transactions. Outstanding long term prospects.

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Oil and gas specialists having 3-6 years' pg will appreciate the excellence of this firm's transactional client base. Acting for some of the multi-national giants in the oil/gas sphere this firm's ambitious unit has gone from strength to strength during recent times. Plenty of chance to shine in an environment placing real stock on initiative and commerciality.

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For more information, in strictest confidence on these or other career opportunities please feel free to contact Hugh Kelly or Mark Field on 0171 588 7878 (0171 937 6894 weekends) or write to them at Kellyfield Consulting, Second Floor, Moor House, 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5ET. Confidential fax: 0171 588 7020.

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NQ-1 yr

Assist Legal Dir. in progressing co. Broad commercial/ins work. Market knowledge is desirable. Positive team environment.

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2-3 yrs

Role for ambitious lawyer to support the derivative products team of top Euro bank. 3-5 yrs per sought. Languages an advantage.

ENERGY CO

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Challenging role in the frontline of global business for high calibre City lawyer. Adaptable commercial approach essential.

CONSTRUCTION

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London Non-cont lawyer with 1-4 yrs to join small team. Progressive, team environment. Salary c. £32k plus car.

INVESTMENT BANK

6 months-2 yrs

Top Euro bank with extensive international operations seeks young lawyer to join small legal team and handle broad based work.

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East Anglia. Leading firm to service with some experience of pensions, life ins. and/or savings to join multi-disciplinary team.

CORPORATE / US

Senior

Heavyweight corp lawyer with exp'ce of US securities for Head of Legal role in top co. Previous in-house experience preferred.

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1-2 yrs

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Leading firm has an exceptional opening for a 3-10 yr pg commercial property solicitor, ideally with some management experience.

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Excellent vacancy for a high calibre matrimonial specialist with 4 yrs+ pg. Attractive salary / good projects guaranteed.

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Top firm seeks NQ-2 yr solicitor with good academics for mixed defendant P.I. caseload.

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Due to an increase in instructions, this leading practice now seeks an ambitious 4-5 yr pg employment lawyer. Excellent prospects.

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Relevant experience essential. Top salary.

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Our client, a global investment bank with a leading presence in Emerging Markets, wishes to appoint a dynamic, ambitious self-starter with a legal background as a Fund Structurer to facilitate its further expansion into funds management. It aims to substantially increase funds under management whilst maintaining its position as one of the most consistent top performers in this area.

Working within the Funds Management team, the successful candidate will be responsible for managing the Corporate Finance area, including advising and structuring new fund launches and all pertinent legal issues relating to investment in Emerging Markets.

This business area will operate as its own profit centre with opportunity for significant fee generation.

Candidates will have 5-10 years legal experience and an understanding of the regulatory, compliance and taxation issues pertaining to funds management, be able to coordinate and manage fund launches and investment strategies for immature and developing markets and legal systems.

Experience of structuring Emerging Markets Funds would be an advantage but of prime importance is the ability to demonstrate:

- A strong legal background gained either within practice, investment banking or funds management
- A proven track record in managing transactions with teams of professionals
- A knowledge and understanding of the issues relating to launching international offshore funds
- A high degree of commercial judgement and maturity when dealing with complex crossborder transactions
- A desire to seek a more commercial, open-minded business environment with the prospects for good remuneration, personal challenge and career development

Please send your CV in complete confidence to Adrienne Vere Green at Emerging Markets Search & Selection, 12 Mincing Avenue, London EC2V 5BT, UK. Telephone: +44 171 939 4744. Fax: +44 171 939 4717 or Email: address: adrian@emss.co.uk

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We are looking for a 2-3 year qualified property lawyer who is already specialising in or intends to specialise in Environmental Law, particularly Contaminated Land issues. Applications are invited from private practice solicitors and also from local authorities and the Environment Agency.

The successful candidate will need to demonstrate the following:

- A sound knowledge of property law.
- Awareness of contaminated land liability issues (including the new Part II A provisions).
- Enthusiasm, self-motivation and practice development skills.

The position offers a competitive salary, together with a range of other benefits. Please send your curriculum vitae in confidence to:

Ian Doolittle
Trowers & Hamlin
6 New Square, Lincolns Inn
London WC2A 3RP.
(Ref: RLM)

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The Criminal Cases Review Commission is being set up to enable people who believe they have been the victims of miscarriages of justice to have their cases investigated in depth and with impartiality. The Commission's responsibilities will, as appropriate, extend to referring cases to the courts in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Sir Frederick Crawford has recently been approved as Chairman of the Commission, and it is expected that the remainder of the Board will be identified through the autumn. The current need is to appoint people to a number of management, professional and support roles in time for the Commission to begin its work within the next few months.



LEGAL ADVISERS

to £50,000

You will provide advice to the Chairman, Board Members and Caseworkers on all legal matters of relevance to the Commission's work. This will include matters related to cases under investigation; the implications of judgements likely to influence case handling; the handling of judicial review proceedings, and management issues - specifically in the context of employment and contract law.

You must be a Solicitor or Barrister with extensive knowledge and experience in criminal law and, ideally, some knowledge of administrative and employment law. Ref: C2978.

POLICE ADVISERS

to £45,000 or on secondment

A serving or newly-retired police officer of at least Superintendent rank, you will advise on the selection of investigating officers; help to set their detailed working remit, and assist the Commission to build good working relationships with police services throughout the country.

If a serving officer, you will be appointed on secondment under central service terms. If retired, your salary will reflect the extent and quality of relevant experience you are able to offer. Ref: C2979.

CASEWORKERS

£15,000 - £25,000; some senior posts to £40,000

You will consider representations from convicted persons or their representatives and decide, on the basis of objective evidence, whether their allegation or complaint merits investigation. Subsequently, you will consider the reports of investigating officers and take decisions on cases where responsibility has been delegated. In other cases you will advise and brief the Chairman and Board Members, recommending the action to be taken. In the senior roles, you will manage and develop less experienced team members.

Although a legal background is not necessary, you must be of graduate calibre with an interest in legal issues, specifically those related to the administration of the criminal justice system. Experience in the management of complex casework would be particularly relevant but, whatever your background, you will need excellent analytical skills coupled with the ability to take a methodical, rigorous and objective approach to your work, even when under pressure. It is anticipated that there will be considerable use of modern information technology. Interest in and familiarity with IT will be important in these appointments. Ref: C2973.

PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS
OFFICER (PART-TIME)

to £30,000 pro rata

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You must be politically astute, have exceptional interpersonal skills and, in particular, be an effective communicator. You may have gained experience in a major law or accounting firm or the Civil Service. Fluency in French, German or Spanish although not a pre-requisite would be an advantage.

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For further information please write to or phone Alisa Adair, Price Waterhouse, Southwark Towers, 32 London Bridge Street, London, SE1 9SY. Tel: 0171 939 3100. Fax: 0171 939 3131

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NQ-2 years'

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Dynamic London office of leading US firm seeks a top flight City litigator to deal with mainstream international litigation. Excellent partnership prospects.

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10
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To find out more, please telephone Tom Joyce or Stephen Revell at any time on 0171 832 7217 or write to them in confidence at Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS. Alternatively, speak to Gareth Quarry, Adrian Fox or Alison Jacobs on 0171 405 6062 (evenings/weekends: 0171 731 5699) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH



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The Candidate

- qualified solicitor or barrister with 3-5 years' post qualification experience in general commercial law gained either within a multinational company or in private practice

- good communicator possessing a diplomatic and confident manner
- ability to demonstrate a flexible style of working in a team and on an independent basis in an international business environment
- good level of spoken French is desirable

If you believe you have the talents and background we are seeking and wish to work in this stimulating environment, contact our advising consultants, Gareth Chambers or Lindsay Reid, at In-House Legal. Telephone 0171 405 0151 or write to them at In-House Legal, 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH. Fax: 0171 831 7969. E-mail: hwgroup@hwgroup.co.uk

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London

NQ-4 years pqe

£ Excellent

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For further information or for an informal discussion, in complete confidence, please telephone Charles Ferguson or Penny Stevenson on 0171 831 2000 or write to them at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH, or fax 0171 831 6662.



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FED UP WITH COMING 2ND?

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Richard Stone QC	Rod Bonham	Ruth Bishop	CLERKS
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Jervis Key QC	Lined Penney	Nigel Meeson	J-P Schulz
Alan Myers QC (Ans)	Stephen Wilson	Michael Davies	
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Lloyd Lloyd	Yvonne Green	Gillian Carrington	
Alan Lycett	Vassili Sevastyanov	Arnold Gheffier	
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London

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We are seeking to recruit a senior paralegal to head the paralegal assistance available to our Litigation department. Candidates for this position should have some legal training and broad experience of the management of documentary evidence including experience of using computerised database systems. The ability to supervise other paralegals is important and some experience of imaging systems would be useful.

This is seen as a permanent position and those seeking short term temporary work should not apply.

The firm offers a competitive remuneration package including an occupational pension scheme, life insurance, private medical insurance and profit related pay.

Applications should be in writing to Richard Launchbury, Head of Administrative Services, Titmuss Sainer Dechert, 2 Serjeants' Inn, London EC4Y 1LT.

Commerce and Industry

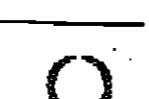
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Berrymans

LONDON

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The above represents a small selection of the vacancies presently registered with us, please contact Andrew Golding, Yvonne Phillips or Sally Horrox (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-377 0510 (0171-226 3163 evening/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail: andy@zmb.co.uk Website: <http://www.zmb.co.uk/>

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The Group's practice includes advising on authorised unit trusts, OEICs, PEPs, and venture capital trusts but is concerned mainly with limited partnerships, offshore funds, investment trust launches and restructurings, and unauthorised unit trusts, frequently where specific regulatory, tax or accounting issues have to be addressed. The work of the Group is diverse and stimulating requiring knowledge of the applicable taxation, regulatory and commercial issues applicable to investment funds and including an international dimension.

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We welcome applications from newly qualified solicitors or solicitors with up to two years post qualification experience. Please write in confidence, enclosing your CV to Tim Cole, Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS.

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For further details please contact Charles Fellowes Partnership, Newater House, 11 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 3NY or telephone 0121-200 3363 quoting reference 010568.

All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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The ideal candidate will have between 2-3 years' post qualification experience either in the profession or in-house, but in either case with a definite commercial bias. He/she will enjoy working in a dynamic environment which encourages both personal responsibility and good team working.

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London

£ Excellent Package

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Ideally you should have at least two years' experience of Debt and/or Equity Capital Markets, either within another leading transaction management group or a leading law firm. Fluency in any European language would be an advantage. In addition, this appointment is likely to involve some travel.

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Interested candidates should contact Piers Williams or Lisa Witcher at Macdonald & Company, Donhead House, Donhead St. Andrew, Shaftesbury, SP7 9EB. Telephone: 01747 828337 Facsimile: 01747 828047. E-mail: 101767.3663@compuserve.com. Please state your preferred position.

SBM
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ASSISTANT LEGAL COUNSEL

The main responsibilities will be to assist in all aspects of the work of the legal department with emphasis on the review, drafting and negotiation of contracts and providing related advice to other departments.

Candidates must have a degree from a good law school and two years contracts experience in an international law firm or company ideally dealing in engineering, marine work or capital goods. A working knowledge of French would be an advantage. The position is based in Monaco and some travel will be required.

Please send a detailed cv and photograph to:

Head of Personnel, Single Buoy Moorings Inc., 24 av de Fontvieille, P.O. Box 199, MC-98007 Monaco, Cedex.

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ATHLETICS

Sound of different gun brings joy to city

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN SARAJEVO

The sound of gunfire could be heard repeatedly here yesterday, but it was the starter's pistol, not the sniper's rifle, that was audible across the way from the Kosevo Stadium, near the graveyard where thousands of victims of the siege of Sarajevo are buried.

The first international sports event since the restoration of peace brought joy and excitement to this city where, for nearly four years, fear and misery had been the dominant emotions. Only a small army of athletes agreed to fly in for 24 hours, amid tight security, to support this joint project by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), but they were sufficient in number, just to make an occasion of it.

"We are very grateful to all who have come," Jasminka Kalmar, a young mother among the 50,000 spectators, said. "It reminds us that the world wants to help us."

Some 80 athletes covered 15 events, with only three competitors in the hammer, three in the pole vault. But the presence of five Olympic champions from Atlanta at least offered a measure of quality. Many stayed away. Michael Johnson among them, concerned for their safety, although guarantees were given by IAAF, the peace force here.

More than £1 million has been spent by the IOC and IAAF on rebuilding the stadium, complete with new Mondo track and giant screen, although it looked incongruous in a setting of such devastation. Next door is the destroyed Zeta sports hall, in which Torvill and Dean won Olympic gold in 1984. The Kosevo changing rooms were used as a hospital overspill operating theatre during the war.

"Four high-rise blocks, their windows blown out, towered over the track, a vantage point for security guards. The stadium was full to overflowing. 'If we had 500,000 places they would all be occupied,'" Mufid

Memija, the local organising secretary, said.

"I felt, if my coming could help in any way, I wanted to be part of it," Torrance Zellner, one of only three United States athletes here, said. "There was no question in my mind of any danger."

There was, in the mind of Dalton Grant, one of only three Britons. "I was scared to come," Grant admitted. "But I thought I had to try to help the people smile."

John Mayock, a Yorkshireman, had no intention of missing the chance. "I am an adventurous guy," Mayock, who won the 2,000 metres yesterday, said.

Once here, he spurned the official tour and was his own guide, taking Grant with him. He walked into the remote parts of the city yesterday morning to find people living in bombed-out buildings which, he said, seemed to be in danger of collapsing.

"I saw one young guy about my age walking down a hill in a tracksuit and his leg was twisted, like it was a broken leg and nobody had fixed it. I was thinking he was one of the lucky ones," Mayock said. "On one path I found a few bullets. I picked them up and thought of keeping them, but put them back because I thought they might have gone through somebody."

Helmut Digel, an IAAF council member, admitted that the issuing of invitations to athletes had been left too late, but said that those who had not come had made a mistake. "They are missing one of the most important experiences in athletics, a chance to give 50,000 spectators a feeling of solidarity," Digel said.

A local artist gave every athlete a copy of his work to mark the visit and Charles Austin, the Olympic high jump champion, will hang his with pride at home. "The memory of this is always going to be with me," he said. "It will be a different memory from winning in Atlanta, but just as important."

"There has been a tendency

in the last year or so to talk down second XI cricket," Mike Vockins, chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board second XI committee, said. "But there is nothing wrong with the standard. If there is a concern about that, it says more about the country's recruitment policy. What we are intending to do is to look at playing four-day cricket in future."

More complaints have been made about the quality of pitches in the second XI championship than for several years. The covering of some out-grounds is not always what is required. At least, now that counties can no longer employ two or more overseas players, there are no longer so many bowlers who can take advantage of this.

Next year, this competition will be of 50 overs a side to come into line with one-day international cricket and the Benson and Hedges Cup. There remains a man-of-the-match award, given yesterday by Bob Willis to Ian Sutcliffe, whose innings of 61 off 74 balls, gave Leicestershire a decent start.

LORD'S will be a busy place today. Following the lengthy deliberations of the selectors last night, there will be the announcement of two England touring parties at 10.30 this morning, and A. C. Smith, the Test and County Cricket Board's (TCCB) chief executive, is also expected to meet David Lloyd to discuss the terms of the England coach's new contract.

Lloyd, who was taken on trial at the start of the season on secondment from Lancashire, was asked recently by the TCCB to remain with the national team until 1998, but the usual negotiations about his salary have had to wait, arousing speculation that he might turn his back on the job.

Lloyd reportedly turned down the board's original offer during the Texaco Trophy matches with Pakistan and is expecting a substantially revised one when he meets Smith. "I told David that I would not be able to talk to him until after the NatWest Trophy final, and I expect to do that tomorrow," Smith said yesterday. "We will sit down and discuss the matter and I have no doubt that it will be all sorted out."

We were waiting for the Field report [into the future management of the England team] to be accepted by the board before we could move on it. I am sure it will be just like talking to any other employee and I have no doubt that David Lloyd will remain as England coach."

There is no doubt that the TCCB wants Lloyd, or that Lloyd wants the England job, and it is hard to imagine that the two-year deal will not be signed. Lloyd's bargaining power has not been enhanced, however, by developments at Lancashire, where the club is

pushing on with appointing a long-term replacement as chief coach. Graham Gooch turned down an offer last month, since when preliminary talks have opened with Dennis Lillee.

Lancashire will begin the defence of their NatWest Trophy against Berkshire at Old Trafford when next year's competition gets under way in June. Lancashire, who added the NatWest Trophy to the Benson and Hedges Cup by beating Essex in the final at Lord's on Saturday, have not been beaten at home at the knockout stage of any one-day competition since 1987. They face a trip to either Sussex or Shropshire on July 9 should they, as expected, triumph in the first round on June 24.

Essex open their campaign away to Buckinghamshire, with a possibly tricky second round tie at home to Worcestershire or Holland should they progress.

Cardigan Connor, the Hampshire fast bowler, will undergo surgery next week on a knee injury which has ruled him out of action for the rest of the season. Connor, 35, who has taken 49 wickets this season, has missed the last four championship matches.

NATWEST TROPHY: First-round draw: BUCKINGHAMSHIRE v ESSEX, 10.30-12.30, 11.00-12.00, 12.30-13.30; BUCKINGHAMSHIRE v KENT, CAMBRIDGESHIRE v HAMPSHIRE; NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v STAFFORDSHIRE; CUMBERLAND v NORTHUMBERLAND; SOMERSET v HEREFORDSHIRE; DORSET v DORSET; SUSSEX v WORCESTERSHIRE; GLOUCESTERSHIRE v BIRMINGHAM; WARWICKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE; WORCESTERSHIRE v HOLLAND; LINCOLNSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE; YORKSHIRE v HAMPSHIRE; SUSSEX v BUCKINGHAMSHIRE; WORCESTERSHIRE v SOMERSET or HEREFORDSHIRE. (Ties to be played Wednesday, July 9.)

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FOOTBALL

Germans to pose another test of Arsenal's resolve

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

HAVING drawn against Aston Villa on Saturday, Arsenal may well face Villa again tomorrow — Villa, in this case, being Marko Villa, an 18-year-old attacker whom Borussia Mönchengladbach, Arsenal's opponents in the first leg of their Uefa Cup first-round tie at Highbury, have in desperation flung into their team with some success.

The son of an Italian immigrant, Villa was playing in Borussia's amateur team and had not even got a contract when they sent him on as a substitute in the last 20 minutes of their penultimate game, which they lost 1-0 to Werder Bremen. That was their fourth match without a Bundesliga victory, but, last Friday, Villa played again, at home to Hamburg, scored a goal, and helped his team to an inspiring 3-0 win.

Arsenal beware: the more so as they seem almost sure to be without David Seaman, their

match-winning goalkeeper, who strained a hamstring playing for England in Moldavia and who will again be replaced by the ever-erratic John Lukic.

Running a shuttle service between Leeds United and Arsenal, Lukic has often excelled, but all too frequently blundered, most recently against Chelsea at Highbury, when he allowed a shot by Gianluca Vialli to slip between himself and the near post. He will also have nightmares of the strange error that gave Rangers a crucial goal against Leeds in a European Cup match at Ibrox in 1992.

It is rumoured that Arsenal are interested in Stefan Effenberg, the volatile and disruptive Borussia midfield player and a poor man's Bernd Schuster; both blond, both so talented, both so wayward. Effenberg is seriously at odds with the club.

Still without Tony Adams, Arsenal's three-man defence of Keown, Bould — if he is fit to play — and Lingham looks a little geriatric at times, but the team in recent FA Carling Premiership games has shown tremendous resilience, with a 3-3 draw against Chelsea after being 2-0 down, and the 2-2 draw away to Aston Villa, again after being two goals behind. Paul Merson seems to have run into incisive Dennis Bergkamp remains a forward of the highest quality, and Ian Wright can make goals out of nothing.

Borussia are still badly

missing Martin Dahlin, the Sweden centre forward who was sold, strangely, to Roma, meeting him in Rome in May.

I suggested that a transfer to Roma hardly looked feasible, given the presence of two top South American strikers, Fonsca and Balbo. Dahlin looked quizzical, his transfer to Roma took place, and Internazionale, did not live to see the moment of fulfilment.

That will suit Villa, even though Sasa Curic, their Yugoslav midfield player, is ineligible. "We play that way, anyway," Little said. "We'll be looking to make our fitness count, especially in the last 15 minutes.

"Swedish football has improved a lot in recent years. They will suit Villa, even though Sasa Curic, their Yugoslav midfield player, is ineligible. "We play that way, anyway," Little said. "We'll be looking to make our fitness count, especially in the last 15 minutes.

Borussia wanted him back, but he refused them. The blond Pole, Juskowiak, bought from Olympiakos Piraeus, has not so far replaced him adequately. But there is plenty of talent in the team, among them Patrik Andersson, the centre back who played for Sweden against England in the 1992 European championship finals. Fournier, from France, alongside him, and the skilful Romanian, Luperu, in midfield.

Other foreigners available are the strikers, Jürgen Pettersson, from Sweden, and Max Huibers, from Holland, while the Danish midfield player, Peter Nielsen, scored one of the goals against Hamburg. Until Friday, the defence looked sound enough — scoring was the problem. Now, that may have been solved. Arsenal are favourites, but it will not be easy.

Helsingborgs, who defeated Dinamo Minsk 4-1 on aggregate in the qualifying round, reserved their best, a 3-0 victory, for the second leg in Belorussia. Villa Park, in contrast, should be a doddle.

Little, though, is right to be cautious. Helsingborgs, who defeated Dinamo Minsk 4-1 on aggregate in the qualifying round, reserved their best, a 3-0 victory, for the second leg in Belorussia. Villa Park, in contrast, should be a doddle.

It is where the nature of his progress will be more accurately gauged, with Villa embarking on their ninth European campaign this evening when they play Helsingborgs, IF, of Sweden, at Villa Park in the first leg of their Uefa Cup first-round tie.

Little was last involved in foreign competition 18 years ago when he played for Villa in a Uefa Cup quarter-final against Barcelona. He scored in the away leg, in a 2-1 defeat, but Barcelona went through 4-3 on aggregate.

The Continent is the only place to be for clubs harbouring hopes of great things and if Villa are to prove they are genuine contenders, Helsingborgs should be brushed aside as no more than a minor irritant. Though they finished runners-up in the Allsvenskan, the Swedish league, last season, and have nine Swedes internationals in their line-up, it is their first venture into Europe.

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O'Halloran takes charge of washing the Barry Town kit — even though she is now the chairman of the club

Little faces real test of Villa's quality

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

BRIAN LITTLE'S quiet manner belies an inner strength which, since he became manager of Aston Villa almost two years ago, has helped to transform an attractive yet brittle side into perennial contenders. Last season brought the Coca-Cola Cup, probably ahead of schedule and heightened domestic expectation; this season, Little is looking optimistically to Europe.

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Barry plan toast to absent friends

ANDREW LONGMORE



On the Welsh club's Uefa Cup adventure

More than just 5 pounds of pride will be invested in Barry Town's historic visit to Aberdeen in the Uefa Cup tonight. Barry have already become the first team from the League of Wales to win a tie in European competition, beating clubs from Latvia and Hungary to reach the first round. The only sadness was that Neal O'Halloran, the man who had single-handedly lifted the club from the depths of the Southern League and onto the same European stage as Newcastle United and Internazionale, did not live to see the moment of fulfilment.

He died nearly a year ago on September 30, and not the least part of Barry's motivation will be to provide an appropriately improbable tribute to the anniversary by reaching the second round.

An opening season record of played three, won three, goals for ten, goals against nought, even in a Cinderella league, should be enough to concentrate Scottish minds on the job. Failing that, a quick glance into the eyes of Barry Town's president — as they like to say in Europe — will confirm that a hero of steel still remains in the town after the recession. Mrs Paula O'Halloran, 58, is not a woman to be taken lightly.

The last person who mistook the gentle smile and the casual manner for a soft

enough for a club bent on making Europe their second home, her autocratic style of presidency is as Italianate as her neat, cream suit. Her family's money, made from steel, has sponsored the club's move to a full time staff over the past two years and she will play too fast for the non-League team, but Barry are not the standard job lot of carpenters, electricians and accountants out for a few pints and a slab of glory. Barry's players are probably professional — they train every morning, teach football in the schools every afternoon — and their preparations have been every bit as thorough.

O'Halloran does not believe in committees. "I make the decisions," she said. "You have to have someone to do that, right or wrong. If I'm wrong, it's up to me to admit the mistake and learn from it. We don't sign anyone until I've seen them play and seen that they will fit in with the club. If I give the manager 11 Donald Ducks, he can't do anything. But I'm a shrewd judge now and my job is to give him good players." And wash the team kit.

Since her husband first came to Barry in 1958, first as a player, then as coach, manager and, finally, chairman, she has performed most of the chores of the dutiful sporting wife. "I have always been one step behind my husband. Now I like to think he is one step behind me. I think he guides me." So, partly out of pride, partly from habit, she has combined her new role with her old one as laundry lady. "No one does it as well as I do, you see. When you play in yellow, it's got to be right."

Whether Barry will be looking as smart by the end of the biggest game in the club's history is a different matter. Roy Aitken, the Aberdeen manager, has promised his side will play too fast for the non-League team, but Barry are not the standard job lot of carpenters, electricians and accountants out for a few pints and a slab of glory. Barry's players are probably professional — they train every morning, teach football in the schools every afternoon — and their preparations have been every bit as thorough.

The Scottish club are far more affluent than Hamburg, but, in terms of experience, Celtic are impoverished. A Hibernian side that was more inclined to oblige than oppose hardly constitutes apt preparation for Europe.

Burns recognises that an element of prudence will have to be added, even if it constrains slightly the thrillingly instinctive attacking produced on Saturday. Caution is all the more important since Celtic will be without their costly defender, Alan Stubbs, who damaged an ankle at the weekend, and cannot be sure that Jackie McNamara, the right back, will recover from illness in time to play.

Any foolhardiness would be all the more exasperating because this is a team that does possess skill enough to carry them far in the Uefa Cup. With Di Canio, Thom, Jorge Cadete and Pierre van Hooijdonk present, it is hardly surprising, as Burns observed, that Celtic now look constantly capable of scoring.

Recent results in the Bundesliga, on the other hand, portray Hamburg as a team prone to conceding goals. On Friday, Felix Magath's side were beaten 3-0 by Borussia Mönchengladbach and the coach has since inflicted a punitive series of training sessions on his players. None of that, however, prevents Burns from asserting that Hamburg will be "very efficient" adversaries.

Carnival is over for resolute Keegan

BY DAVID MADDOCK

NEWCASTLE United's tactics in Europe under Kevin Keegan have thus far been of the Light Brigade variety, a cavalry charge into the valley of death. Two seasons ago the valiant black and whites were spectacular and foolhardy in equal measure, going out after two rounds of the Uefa Cup, scoring 13 goals in the process.

Keegan, wiser now, admits it was an adventure then, an entertaining sideshow to the main event of establishing his club among England's elite. It was exhilarating, too, while it lasted, undone, after taking a three-goal lead against Athletic Bilbao.

It is a very different Newcastle who will open their Uefa Cup campaign this evening against Halmstad, of Sweden. The English side has a depth of squad perhaps unmatched by any other team in the competition, and a weight of expectation to go with it.

Keegan, burdened with the necessity of having to produce some tangible benefit for the £60 million-plus he has spent on strengthening his team, knows that a different approach than that of two years ago is called for.

"It was like a carnival then.

Again, Bilbao, the crowd were doing Mexican waves and I think the players were joining in when we got to 3-0 up," he said. "But this time we have to do a professional job to ensure we get into the har for the next round. Two years ago, winning the trophy wasn't really on the agenda. Now, it's got to preoccupy the players."

To do so, Newcastle must overcome what appears

relatively routine challenge of the Swedish part-timers. It is not that simple, of course, as Keegan stressed. He feels that the part-timers train harder than English professionals, and that Halmstad has a respectable record in Europe, as a 3-0 win over Parma last season [in the Cup Winners' Cup] will testify.

Much has been said about Newcastle's string of pearls across the forward line, but it may be the defence that holds the key to prolonged success in Europe. Keegan made a valid point yesterday when he drew on his winning experience with Liverpool in the 1970s.

"The formula for Europe is finding the correct balance between patience and adventure," he said. "At this club, we are never short of adventure or flair, but sometimes maybe the discipline part, that patient side, is in question."

He might have added that it was the team's defensive discipline that was in question. Newcastle have at times displayed a remarkable ability to undermine themselves with negligent defending. Such abandon will prove yet more costly in Europe.

Keegan, though, feels there is one significant factor that could be harnessed to produce the expected outcome against Halmstad. "This game is a wonderful chance for Les Ferdinand to prove that his partnership with Shearer can work against continental opposition," he said. "A lot has been said about the pairing not working for England, but I'm certain it can. They can prove it in Europe, and that will work for us."

Football

KICK-OFF 7.30 unless stated

* denotes all-timers

Uefa Cup

First round, first leg

Aberdeen v Barry Town

Barossa Mönchengladbach (7.15)

Aston Villa v Hamburg (7.45)

Newcastle v Halmstad (8.0)

National League

First division

Brentford v Stockton (7.45)

Birmingham v Oldham (7.45)

Bolton v Grimsby (7.45)

Charlton v Southend (7.45)

Clydebank v Partick (7.45)

Coventry v Walsall (7.45)

Everton v Wolverhampton (7.45)

Port Vale v Manchester City (7.45)

Sheffield United v Bradford (7.45)

Shrewsbury Town v Reading (7.45)

Second division

Brentford v Plymouth (7.45)

Bristol Rovers v Bournemouth (7.45)

Burnley v Blackpool (7.45)

Cardiff v Luton (7.45)

Luton v Grimsby (7.45)

Notts County v Watford (7.45)

Peterborough v Millwall (7.45)

Preston v York (7.45)

Rangers v Birmingham (7.45)

Shrewsbury v Bristol City (7.45)

Stockport v Wrexham (7.45)

Walsall v Wycombe (7.45)

Third division

Colchester v Brighton (7.45)

Dagenham v Luton (7.45)

Exeter v Fulham (7.45)

Harlequins v Carlisle (7.45)

Lincoln v Hull (7.45)

Macclesfield v Barrow (7.45)

Newport County v Orient (7.45)

Rochdale v Chester (7.45)

Scarborough v Doncaster (7.45)

Scunthorpe v Cambridge United (7.45)

Southend v Walsall (7.45)

Torquay v Chesterfield (7.45)

Vauxhall Conference

Aberdeen v Halifax (7.45)

Hayes v Kidderminster (7.45)

Kettering v Dover (7.45)

Macclesfield v Morecambe (7.45)

Maidstone v Telford (7.45)

Woking v Farnborough (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division

Dunfermline v Hearts (7.45)

Scottish League Challenge



FOOTBALL 48

Barry's benefactor prepares for club's grand day out

SPORT

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 1996

TENNIS 50

State of US game open to doubt in spite of Sampras's win



Heavy defeat hastens dismissal

Leeds run out of patience with Wilkinson

By PETER BALL

LEEDS United found the 4-0 home defeat by their great rivals, Manchester United, on Saturday too humiliating to swallow, and Howard Wilkinson has paid the penalty. He was dismissed yesterday morning after eight years as manager. "I'm very disappointed, very sad and obviously very shocked," an emotional Wilkinson said at a hastily-arranged press conference.

Wilkinson had taken charge when Leeds were sixth from bottom of the old second division, and took them to the league championship in 1992 and the first of the Coca-Cola Cup last season. With a group of young players also emerging fast, he has left the club in a much stronger position than when he found it. "The whole place is much healthier, more vibrant, a potentially bigger place than anyone ever dreamt it could be eight years ago," Wilkinson said.

Even after the defeat on Saturday, Leeds were ninth in the FA Carling Premiership, as Wilkinson pointed out with a flash of his familiar tartness.

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THE WILKINSON YEARS

1988: Wilkinson succeeds Billy Bremner as manager in October.

1989-90: Steers Leeds to the second division championship in his first full season with the club.

1991-92: Becomes the last manager to win the first division title for 10 years (right) in his second year in the top flight with the club as Leeds overtake a flagging Manchester United team on the run-in.

1992-93: After the rise, the fall: Leeds finish seventeenth in the Premier League and go out in the second round of the European Cup.

1993-94: Film rights in the Premiership are sold, and the result does not satisfy the expectations of the fans. Silverstone continues to elude them.

1995-96: Leeds slump to thirteenth in the Premiership and throw away their chance of consolation with an abject display in a 3-0 Coca-Cola Cup final defeat by Aston Villa.

1996: Leeds board loses patience after 4-0 home defeat by Manchester United.



"There aren't many clubs in a situation like ours who put up the vacant sign," he said.

Bill Fotherby, the club's new chairman and former managing director, was not convinced, however. "I felt we weren't going in the direction we should be going in," he said. "We have to have success and we haven't been having it."

"It was the hardest decision of my life. It was like tearing a part of my body away, but I had lost confidence, and I was not going to let us get into the situation where we were in that gluepot down below and couldn't get out."

That will now be the task of a new manager. George Graham and Kenny Dalglish have been linked with the club in recent weeks. Graham's powers of organisation would fit in well with the Leeds tradition. Unlike Manchester City, where Graham turned down an approach to succeed him.

"At the end of the day, it's all about supporters," Robin Launders, the club's new chief executive, said. "You need the supporters to be supportive of the manager."

A South Yorkshireman and a former teacher, Wilkinson's dour personality and didactic manner had not made him universally popular at Elland Road, even at the height of his success. When things began to go wrong, a section of the crowd turned against him. At the Coca-Cola Cup final in March, he was booted after the team gave an inept performance to lose 3-0 to Aston Villa.

Wilkinson decided then that the team needed dramatic surgery. The arrival of new owners appeared to offer the necessary funds for rebuilding, but the process stalled as the takeover was challenged in court.

This season, the fans were unhappy from the first home game, a defeat by Sheffield Wednesday. Wins over Wimbledon and Blackburn Rovers offered hope, and on Saturday, Wilkinson predicted that a win over Manchester United would mean they had got a "little run going". Instead, it was the end as the new board — or new chairman — proved less supportive than the old.

The old board had one agenda, the new board has another agenda," Wilkinson said. "Caspian are involved in the City, and have their ideas for the future of the club but, at a football club, what matters is the team, and if the performance is not as advantageous as they want it to be, they have to do something about it."

Wilkinson should at least get some compensation. His contract, which was only signed in February, guarantees him his full salary and bonuses until 1999 in the event of his dismissal. That could cost the club £1.8 million, and Fotherby's comments yesterday, that the two sets of lawyers should sit down to sort things out, suggested that a legal wrangle could ensue. "It's a big club and I hope we can sort it out in a gentlemanly way," Wilkinson said.

Wilkinson could lose us all before and after matches, with his ponderings. For example, after Leeds had surrendered so abjectly on their own ground to Manchester United last Saturday, he said this: "They [his players] played with too much apprehension, fear, nervousness, and the thing you don't look when you play like that is a good player. It can look to the untrained eye that they can't play, they're not fit, not trying... but it's not like that."

He did not explain what it was like, though his pre-match warning that four of the men who began the game were "carrying injuries", and that the loss of his scoring duo, Tony Yeboah and Brian

Deane, were pretty much insurmountable.

If only it were that temporary. It only took eight weeks of boardroom uncertainty during which the club sold back its captain, Gary McAllister, and could not sign replacements, were the sum total of the lost momentum for the club. Like the Caspian Sea, it has far more depth than that.

The two people crucial to the building of a football club are the chairman and the manager. Leslie Silver, the man who hired Wilkinson, who trusted him as a business brain and not merely as a coach of footballers, had doved with Wilkinson to build more than a team. They bolted the community back onto the club after the hooligan years that almost closed Elland Road down.

They took the team from fourth in the second division to champions of the first inside four years, and after seven managers in little more than a decade had shrivelled under the shadow of Don Revie's coarse triumphs. Wilkinson, without any doubt, became the one individual (with his bond with Silver) to foster the growth that won not only silverware but rebuilt the stadium, the pride, the institution that clubs in such cities indisputably become.

When Silver, at 71 and under doctor's orders following heart trouble, stepped

down last April, Wilkinson probably should have gone. Wilkinson, having rejected the FA's offer to school the next generation of English youth as director of coaching, having been denied by Silver the opportunity to listen to Arsenal's offer to replace George Graham, and having dismissed a millionaire's salary to work with Galatasaray in Turkey, had dug himself in for the eighth year of his ten-year building programme at Elland Road.

The departures of his two most important players, Gordon Strachan and McAllister, both to Coventry City, may have seemed like losing a valuable team to this coalminer's son, who combined football with a Bachelor of Science degree at Sheffield University. He could, and often did, baffle us all with the science of his briefings, and I do not doubt that he sometimes had the same effect in the dressing-room. He will not be short of offers this builder of clubs rather than charismatic claimer of titles.

The irony, of course, is that Graham, a friend whom Wilkinson sought to defend after the Arsenal "bung" affair, might already have been approached for Wilkinson's job.

If he needs words of consolation this morning: those that Howard Wilkinson himself offered to John Beck, before he departed from Cambridge United, come to mind: "Non illegitimi carborundum."

As every football man knows, that is the cod Latin for: "Don't let the bastards grind you down."



Wilkinson, who said he was sad and shocked at the decision, contemplates the end of his eight-year reign as Leeds United manager yesterday

Board games claim another victim

ROB HUGHES



On the end of an era at Elland Road

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Five nations united for ten years

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

championship itself, and should be known by the end of this year.

Upon that will depend the size of England's contribution to the central five nations' championship to rest officially in Dublin yesterday. The gentlemen's agreements, which governed the sport during its amateur days, have been replaced with a legal document that will keep the unions of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and France together for at least ten years.

England's contract with BSkyB, the satellite broadcasting company part-owned by News International, owners of *The Times*, remains in place. That provides for two five nations' matches, two games against southern-hemisphere countries and one further international to be shown live from Twickenham and, after a delay, on terrestrial television. Under the new arrangements, when England play a five nations' match at home, terrestrial viewers would have live access to, for example, Ireland versus Scotland, depending on the exact proportion of the ten championship games to be shown on BSkyB. That will not be more than 50 per cent and could be less. At the same time, an independent valuation will be made of the

said: "England bring so much to the five nations" — they are the country everybody wants to beat. To be honest, Wales, Ireland and Scotland need England more than they need us."

The sweetness and light expressed publicly by the administrators from the various governing bodies must now be extended towards their relationship with their clubs — most notably in England. The leading clubs in Wales have also yet to reach accord with their union.

Brittle had a message for the driving forces behind the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (Epruc) organisation: "The unions must accept that the professional clubs do have the responsibility of bearing the brunt of creating the basis for a professional game at club level and we [the RFU] need to assist them within certain parameters," he said.

"But it cannot and must not be at the cost of disbanding the game as we know it. To the club owners, I say that, before you insist on an early return from your investments, stop, think and, in some cases, learn what you have become part of — arguably the best sport in the world and, to keep it so, we must plan together."

FIVE NATIONS'



CHAMPIONSHIP

"The Rugby World Cup every four years complements what we have and I don't think anyone needs to look for more. There could be too much international rugby and, once you take the gloss and excitement of the rarity value away, the public could soon become uninterested."

Cliff Brittle, chairman of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) executive committee, said:

"There have been major concessions made by all parties."

The unions have now agreed

about any future distribution of money, change in the structure of the championship or to the present formula of television committee and the Welsh Rugby Union, said:

"We have the right ingredients for the game of international rugby."

Jim Telfer, the Scottish Rugby Union's director of rugby,

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Robert Runcie — Day Three: Humphrey Carpenter on the unconventional married life



Robert and Rosalind Runcie at their wedding in 1957

Robert Runcie's wife, Lindy, is tough-minded and outspoken. She reacted, initially, with horror to her husband's appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury and later became the subject of attacks by the press

The picture of Rosalind Runcie in a full-length evening dress lying on top of a Bechstein grand piano, that was published in *Sunday* magazine with the words: "The lady loves to play"

The offer that sent Lindy into the garden with a bottle of gin

Rosalind, otherwise known as Lindy, is not in the conventional mould of archbishops' wives. She is a tough-minded and outspoken woman who is not afraid to express her own views — even if this means opposing her husband. In 1974, when Donald Coggan went from York to Canterbury, Runcie was tipped to succeed him. "Yes, we went up to York," he admitted to me. Lindy explained: "I said no."

Runcie began to tell the story in full: "We went up to York, and we had fish pie, and Evensong in the Minster, rather badly sung, and a night at the Railway Hotel. I was keen on York. I thought it would be a return to the North, a New World. But Lindy was in tears at breakfast."

"It was a terrible house," she

LIFE WITH LINDY

explained. "Robert had been offered it, and we went on holiday the next day, and I was still crying. One of Robert's staff said, 'If God calls you, it's your duty'. And I said, 'I don't think God is calling.' "And our daughter, Rebecca? She was 12 years old, we'd just got things established for her, and it would have meant her boarding, or me driving every day to a girls' school miles away. Ugh. Horrible!" How did Runcie feel about Lindy's resistance to York? "Quite a lot of me wanted to go, but I felt that it wouldn't work. I mean, I did care for my wife."

"I said I wouldn't go," repeated Lindy. "We went on holiday, and I hid in the

garden where we were staying, and drank gin! Weeping to myself. And George Reindorp [Bishop of Guildford] wrote and said, 'You mustn't betray his God.' And I said, 'Well, if that's his God, I don't want Him.'

Written to her or to Robert? "To Robert, saying it was all my fault, and I'd have to go there. They were nasty about me, and Robert said: 'You don't understand about Lindy. She needs roots, and when she's put down roots she doesn't want to move. I don't know what it is about me. I wept when I went to Lambeth. I wept when I had to tear up Lambeth and come here. I wept when I went everywhere."

Rosalind on the cover of *Sunday* magazine

archbishop and have a private life which was uninvestigated." But was there anything to investigate? He laughed when I asked this. "No! But I mean, you couldn't have a private life."

This was certainly true of Lindy. The first press attack dates from October 1983. In the summer of that year she appeared in a BBC television programme, *Home on Sunday*, which led journalist Anne Edwards to ask:

"How can a successful man gag a wife who seems hell-bent on making a fool of herself in public, and of him? ... It cannot have done the Archbishop of Canterbury any good to have his wife explain on the box how much of his official life she found boring, how she detested the socialising where they were invited only because of his position, and how she loved to escape to her real friends."

A series of allegations about the Runcies began to appear in August 1985. The *Daily Star* led the way. Under the headline, "Family stir down at Lambeth Palace", it accused the Archbishop and his wife of "living almost separate lives". An unnamed source commented: "She is rarely seen in Canterbury. On most occasions the Archbishop comes here alone. Lindy stays on at Lambeth or in St Albans. She has constantly refused to kowtow to church authority, saying: 'Too much religion makes me go pop.'

... Three years ago Mrs Runcie caused a stir by posing for a series of strange photographs which were little short of "glamour" shots. In one she was draped across a grand piano. Another photograph shows her posing in a swimming costume. "

The *Daily Star* had not printed any of the photographs referred to, which were published in *Sunday*, the magazine section of the *News of the World*, on September 26, 1982. The cover of the magazine shows Lindy in white tennis clothes, leaping exuberantly in the air on a tennis court, and is headlined: "Meet the incredible Rosalind Runcie." Inside, the article about her is illustrated with shots of her playing croquet, ice skating, roller skating, drying her hair, and in a swimming costume (apparently a badly focused family snapshot).

The article was preceded by a double page spread with the words: "The lady loves to

er quitting his post as head of the Church". The Runcies issued a statement denying reports that their marriage was on the rocks.

I arrived in St Albans in November 1994 armed with notes about the marriage, feeling distinctly nervous about tackling such a sticky subject. When Runcie answered the door, he surprised me by saying: "Lindy will make you a cup of coffee." She was not only there but didn't seem in a hurry. I asked if she had time to sit down in front of the tape recorder. "Not really. I want to take three cracked eggs back to Sainsbury's and complain to the manager." But I complained to her.

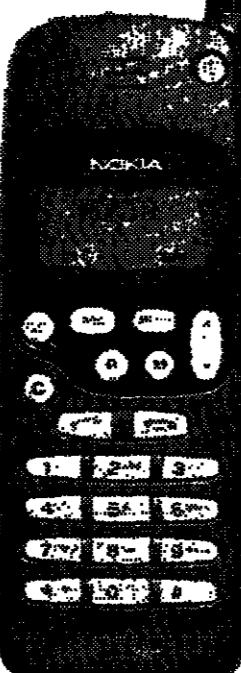
I asked how the grand piano photograph in the *News of the World* had come about. "Well," she answered, "it was

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• that has led to a 'degree of domestic crisis' — and an 'explosion of welcome' for the Pope



A marriage that made the headlines. "You realise how lonely Lindy must very often have been," says Runcie.

meant to be a serious article, and somebody else got hold of it. I don't know how. But how did the photographer persuade her to lie on the piano? "He was a friend — I wouldn't have done it otherwise — and it was going to be a serious thing about my life." How did she come to know him? "He was a journalist here, in St Albans. It was meant to be very serious." Runcie made a sceptical face at this.

I asked if there had been a gossipy, slightly bitchy atmosphere at Lambeth. Lindy alleged that two people in particular "were determined to have us both out on the street. And my lawyer said, 'They're not really going for you, they're going for Robert,' which made me feel worse."

Eventually, she sued the *Daily Star*. "I wanted an open apology, and damages to a charity of my own choice, and my legal expenses paid. And then of course came more filth, because they tried to stop me by frightening me." By printing more of it? "Yes. Twenty Things You Didn't Know About Rosalind Runcie." Drinking in the kitchen — "tidy as a newt". And lifting my skirt above my head to show the shocked maids my suntan." (Runcie laughed at the idea that they had had maids.) "And my language would shock a stevedore. And I love men. I surround myself with men, young men, and rich men. And going to gay sleazy nightclubs with my homosexual friends."

"You've got a lot of homosexual friends," remarked Runcie, in response to this.

"Of course I've got a lot of homosexual friends. Why shouldn't I?"

"Much to your credit," Runcie agreed, slightly sarcastically. How much did she win the case? "Well, it went up to eight thousand five hundred, and we wouldn't settle. Because the apology was going to say 'She may have suffered embarrassment', and I said, 'Not may, did.' And it went up to ten thousand pounds. There's an extremely nice statue in Lambeth Palace garden, a mother and a child. That's what the *Star* paid for." She wanted a statue rather than an actual charity? "That was my charity, the Lambeth Palace garden."



Close harmony: the Runcie family gather round the piano

Because I was raising money for it, at that time, and it's open for charity."

I said that my eye had been caught by the remark by somebody unnamed: "I expect they will soldier on, but at one stage there was a bit of a crisis. But I think they've learnt to cope with the idea of leading separate lives." Lindy began to make guesses as to who had said this. I asked if the reference to "a bit of a crisis" might have had some basis in truth (Runcie himself had used similar words to me).

I was extremely unhappy at Lambeth at first," I reminded Runcie that he had talked of "having a degree of domestic crisis" when he was being offered the archbishopric. What did this mean?

Lindy (interrupting): "I didn't want to go on. I loved being at St Albans. And I just thought, 'Why should I bother

at that time? Because I would not go to York. And I said to Robert, 'If you really want to go to Lambeth, I will go with you. But you know I don't.'

Carpenter (to Runcie): "Why did you consider this to be something that you shouldn't tell me on Lindy's behalf?"

Runcie: "I think that there was, for the first time, and the last time, really, a degree of Lindy having buddies who were closer to her than I was. Because she needed support for herself, as somebody who was reluctant to come."

Carpenter: "You felt she was crying on other people's shoulders?"

Runcie: "That's right. In retrospect, you realise how lonely Lindy must very often have been. After all, there weren't too many people to whom she could talk when I was busy. I think that made for a degree of estrangement. Here's me thinking that this is the greatest decision of my life, and here's somebody lamenting the loss of piano pupils. That's the sort of scale of the thing."

I asked whether, looking back now over the Lambeth years, it was worth it in the end? Lindy admitted: "It seems like a sort of fairy-story now. We met wonderful people and we had lots and lots of lovely dinner parties; people asked us to marvellous things. I thought the moment we left there, they would never speak to us again. But a lot of them still ask us out, and that's rather nice." Runcie added: "We're going to have lunch with the Queen Mum. And I've just been invited to John Birt's Christmas drinks."

Lindy was indignant. "You've been invited and not me again?"

Edited extracts from Robert Runcie: *The Reluctant Archbishop*, by Humphrey Carpenter, published next month by Hodder and Stoughton, £20. ©1996 Humphrey Carpenter

ROBERT RUNCIE

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THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

TOMORROW

Runcie on Terry Waite

'He always enjoyed centre stage; he was what Oliver North once called a grandstander — but forgivably'

He left me to do all the blessing

THE POPE'S VISIT



The Pope "is difficult to get to know"

Divinity at Cambridge, would go to Rome to discuss directly with the Pope — who had recently escaped an assassination attempt — the nature of the service to be held at Canterbury. Chadwick had a difficult week beset by very high tension".

High Montefiore wrote to Runcie that the Pope's visit put him in "something of a dilemma". On the one hand he wanted to "foster true ecumenism" and welcome "the world's foremost Christian leader". On the other hand, "I feel that I cannot just simply dance attendance on the Pope ... Also, I would feel a certain revulsion at finding myself present at a papal allocution in which there was wholesale condemnation of abortion, contraception, remarriage, or the marriage of the clergy."

Runcie reassured him — "I have a great deal of sympathy with what you say" — and agreed that, on the matter of the Pope's conservative views, "the omens are not too good".

The visit dates were fixed for Friday, May 28, to Wednesday June 2, 1982. Henry Chadwick, Regius Professor of

Archbishop of Canterbury wanted everything agreed in advance reassured them, and the opposition died."

Chadwick had spoken to the Pope of Protestant objections to his visit. In April 1981, Endon Powell had written to Runcie, saying he hoped the visit would not compromise "the royal supremacy and the authority of Parliament". A letter from the Church of England Evangelical Council expressed fears that "the Roman Catholic diplomatic and propaganda machine" would attempt to make "capital" out of the visit. The Free Church of Scotland ... observed that "the claims of the See of Rome are incompatible with the history of the early church".

On March 11, 1982, Runcie was on a visit to Liverpool when Protestant demonstrators took up shouts of "Judas" and "traitor".

The demonstration had the opposite effect from that intended, causing most evangelicals in the Church of England, and members of the free churches, to dissociate themselves from such extremism. But while sectarian objections to the visit died down, it began to come under threat from the Falklands War.

Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands on April 2, 1982, and a British task force sailed for the South Atlantic within a few days.

The fact that Britain was in military conflict with a Catholic country, Argentina, led the Vatican to state (by May 23, 1982) that the papal visit would have to be cancelled unless there was a ceasefire ... The British Government now offered to withdraw from official participation in the visit, and the Vatican agreed that it could go ahead.

The Pope landed at Gatwick on Friday, May 28, went to London for Mass at Westminster Cathedral and a private meeting with the Queen, and the next morning flew by helicopter to Canterbury for the cathedral service.

The papal visit was totally surrounded by the Falklands," Runcie told me, "and it was difficult to put my mind to it. But I can remember driving into Canterbury, and the Pope comparing it to Cracow ... he was taking it all in, and I remember that when he processed into the cathedral he didn't bless anyone in the crowd — he expected me to do all the blessing. One of the most moving moments of my life was entering the cathedral, and the enormous explosion of welcome and praise which drowned the choir. And I remember how good he was at lunch — and how envious I was of his valet, getting him everything, his comb and that sort of thing.

The Pope was quite good with the ecumenical leaders. And what was interesting was that the Quakers and the Protestants were amazingly deferential, and the man who was really pugnacious was the representative of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, the Bishop of Edinburgh. He asked the Pope some very direct questions about where he intended to take the Church. That could have got something going, had we had more time."

No Pope had ever been to Britain. In July 1980, two months after Robert Runcie and John Paul II had met in Accra, Runcie went to see Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, to discuss the possibility of a papal visit. Carrington accepted that a visit was "likely to happen in due course", but "saw no advantage in attempting to hurry".

The original plan was for the Anglicans and the Roman Catholics to have a joint formal invitation to the Pope; but before this had been drawn up, Basil Hume, Heenan's successor as Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, and Derek Worlock, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, happened to be having a meeting with the Pope at Castel Gandolfo on August 23, 1980. During this, "rather on the spur of the moment", Hume asked the Pope if it might be possible for him to come to England. The Pope accepted on the spot.

I suggested to Runcie that one benefit of all the high-level contacts preceding the papal visit was that people from both Churches got to know each other — particularly himself and Basil Hume. "Yes. And the Pope, eventually; though I think he is quite difficult to get to know personally. One of the problems is that so much is done for him by his Secretary of State ..."

So what impressions does he give? "I think that he's a man of genuine devotion ... He's a very attractive human being. He's had to struggle with his own masculinity. I mean, he must have had many people fall for him. And I think that he has the discipline of the priest. And yet the warmth of the good host, and a person who understands human beings well enough. But he is a hardliner — on women in the ministry, and on contraception — because he thinks the pace is being set too much by a gospel of self-fulfilment ..."

Once the Pope's visit to Britain was confirmed, Runcie began to consult bishops as to what might be made of the event. David Sheppard, the left-wing Bishop of Liverpool, wrote to Runcie that he had a "dream" that "you and the Pope together might do two or three great public meetings".

High Montefiore wrote to Runcie that the Pope's visit put him in "something of a dilemma". On the one hand he wanted to "foster true ecumenism" and welcome "the world's foremost Christian leader". On the other hand, "I feel that I cannot just simply dance attendance on the Pope ... Also, I would feel a certain revulsion at finding myself present at a papal allocution in which there was wholesale condemnation of abortion, contraception, remarriage, or the marriage of the clergy."

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The visit dates were fixed for Friday, May 28, to Wednesday June 2, 1982. Henry Chadwick, Regius Professor of

Why I can't do business with Blair

Lord Hanson says the boardroom has much to fear from new Labour

The Labour Party is doing its utmost to convince voters that it really is new, that it has abandoned its debilitating envy of success and subsidising of inefficiency. Tony Blair, we are assured, has no intention of soaking the rich. His recent proposals for business and industry have been presented as tax-reducing and non-interventionist. Well... let's take a look.

Despite new gloss, old Labour is alive and kicking, even in the Shadow Cabinet. Clare Short has been demoted for saying that anyone earning as much as an MP should pay more tax, but Michael Meacher, newly promoted as "green" spokesman, says he is ready to consider imposing higher taxes on the "rich", although it is difficult to find out whom Labour includes in that category. Mr Meacher also wants employee involvement in company decision-making, including pay differentials.

Last week's *New Opportunities for Business* amply justifies boardroom suspicion of new Labour. It reveals that Labour still stands for government regulation and is hostile to competition, all of which would be damaging to producers, employees and consumers.

While posing as a friend of small businesses, Labour plans to impose on them the social chapter and a minimum wage. This flies in the face of Britain's achievements on unemployment and productivity, which continue to be better than those of Germany, France or Italy, and would certainly destroy what the OECD recently termed our "economic environment conducive to job creation".

Even without the social chapter and a minimum wage, it is hard for businesses to compete. But when small businesses encounter difficulties, Labour blames a scapegoat: the financial institutions, "which fail to understand their special needs". We have heard that calumny before. To deal with this supposed problem, Labour would develop "business incubators" (how do you fancy that, small business?) and a "rescue culture" (shades of Harold Wilson?)

What do these phrases mean? They mean interfering with banks and other independent lenders, using taxpayers' money — your money — to shore up failing enterprises, as if unaccountable civil servants and local politicians would be more prudent than regulated institutions which are responsible to their shareholders.

Much the same might be said about Labour's proposed "regional development agencies". Intended to attract voters in Scotland, Wales and other regions, these will only increase local bureaucracy. What guarantee is there that these super-quangos will not simply divert funds — your money — from productive enterprises, which locate government interference, to unproductive ones which have not been able to convince investors of their viability?

Indicative of Labour's true colours is its proposal on takeover bids. What it deems "hostile" bids, presumably those opposed by management, must be "in the public interest" (whatever that means) before a Labour government would allow them to proceed. The effect would be to reinforce managerial incompetence. And which business genius will decide the "public interest"? Or should we read "union interest" between the lines?

Despite the manifesto's complaint about "over-regulation", we are promised a new Companies Act

Labour still prefers regulation to competition

the vast majority of state schools are run by Labour-dominated local authorities. No wonder Mr and Mrs Blair personally have opted for a better solution to their children's education.

In the vast townships where the failures are worst, Labour has been in control for decades. In last year's primary school maths tests, for example, Mr Blunkett's Sheffield came 9th out of 107 local authorities. How does that look to prospective business employers?

Labour says it will reduce class sizes to improve literacy and numeracy, despite acknowledging that this will have a marginal effect at most. There is no mention of what would make a difference — phonics, basic arithmetic, disciplined whole class teaching — but this is hardly surprising, for it would challenge assumptions dear to the teacher unions, with which new Labour is still closely linked.

New Opportunities for Business has been put forward as marking the change from old Labour to new. But traditional Labour hostility to privatisation and competition are still there, as is protection of producer interests and an unbridled desire to regulate and interfere.

Tony Blair and Gordon Brown want us to think of them as committed to financial rectitude and low taxation — hence the proposed tax rate of 10p. As the Institute for Fiscal Studies points out, this will cost £8-10 billion. Where from? And how will all the new quangos and subsidies be paid for? "All will be revealed," we are told. Yes? As a somewhat cynical Yorkshireman, I have to say: "Show me, now, before we cast our votes." The manifesto does not encourage me one iota to place my bet on new Labour.

The author is the chairman of Hanson plc.



Canterbury's tales

Lord Runcie chose Humphrey Carpenter with a twinkle in his eye

In all the uproar surrounding Humphrey Carpenter's biography of Lord Runcie, the thundering about betrayal and tape-recorders and turbulent biographers who simply don't understand the innards of the Established Church, the one opinion nobody seems to have asked is God's. I am prepared to bet that God finds it hilarious.

He is, after all, well on the record as avoiding Pharisees and priests, and ecclesiastical buildings with cash desks to spend his time with riff-raff: artisans and Samaritans and that dreadful Magdalene woman. He could hold his own with theoreticians in the temple as a boy, but as a preacher preferred to convey wisdom through the personal, the anecdotal, the entertainment: that rich man trying to manoeuvre his camel through the Needle's Eye gate, the idiot who buried his talents, the woman who loved much, the relatives who wept so sadly for Lazarus that he was excused being dead. He appreciated Martha's administrative bustle, but pointed out that Mary, who listened, had the better part. He would have got on well with Lord Runcie, and probably with Humphrey Carpenter too (although, being omniscient, he might have sabotaged the tape-recorder). As far as God is concerned, there seems to be no problem.

The row about the Carpenter biography is not really about indiscretion: it is about attitude. Nor, I suspect, is it the relationship between Lord Runcie and Humphrey Carpenter nearly so adversarial as some pretend. Read the subject's postscript in the book: "I have done my best to die before this book is published. It now seems possible that I may not succeed." Is that the phrasing of an outraged man, or just a twinklingly rueful one? Lord Runcie then quotes: "It is not justice I need, but Mercy... there is much that is just and more that is merciful in your story." There is, he adds, a lot of "burbling" that he never imagined he would see in print; he criticises Carpenter for not having quite grasped what it was like to be Archbishop of Canterbury. But: "I shall try to keep my sense of humour and the perspective of eternity."

Of course Lord Runcie must publicly distance himself from it: the Pharisee Establishment expects no less. Archbishops of Canterbury, after all, are chaps with Gothic hats and the job of crowning

kings. There are plenty of pained and dignified voices ready to speak of "lack of depth and substance" and "frothy journalism": plenty of weasels like the venerable-than-thou Ven George Austin to take a swing at all the genteel liberalism that Robert Runcie stood for. It clearly would not do for the former Archbishop to take the platform with his Boswell and openly endorse every word of those fireside chats. Nonetheless, the twinkle has not gone from his eye: Lord Runcie is no dupe; he is an adult, a historian, a philosopher, a joker, a very sound man on pigs and pig-keeping. He knew what a tape-recorder is and he knew what Humphrey Carpenter is. I rest my case.

The last point is the most interesting. The former Archbishop could perfectly well have chosen a biographer from a dozen serious, churchy young men and women who would reverently have retailed his life and edited thoughts. Instead, he chose Mr Carpenter. Much has been made of the fact that the biographer is the son of a bishop: the imputation is that Lord Runcie thought him "safe". I cannot believe this. Humphrey Carpenter's personality is a matter of public record, fully evident from his biographies of Auden and Britten, from his journalism, from his studies of children's literature, from his eclectic, mischievous handling of the Cheltenham Literary Festival, from his jazz band and the fascination with Judy Garland which made him write a musical about her and personally bring it to the West End with a cast of children directed by himself — on his own money.

Everybody knows, and Lord Runcie must have known, that Carpenter is not your man for a safe biography of an Establishment pillar; he is not interested in institutions but in people. Not as a trivial gossip, but as a amused student of the quirky, fallible, subtle, endlessly fascinating weave of human personality. This is not popular with those of a more hagiographical

bent and his Britten biography caused some outrage. Yet in that book he caught Britten so well, made him so real, so much a man and a brother, that I have listened to the music more since reading it, and honoured it more.

Lord Runcie, whether consciously or not, chose the nature of his biography in his biography. As to the music, we know that he revised the text (albeit wincingly) and that Carpenter never quotes remarks — as some others have done — that were made away from the tape-recorder over a boozy lunch. When Lord Runcie once asked for the machine to be switched off, it was, and we shall never know what he said in that interval. Nor did Mr Carpenter hawk the more explosive

interviews around, out of context, about the royal divorce row. Plenty of writers would have. So I think we are free to read and enjoy what Lord Runcie said without guilt (and no, this has nothing to do with the paper does).

Libby Purves

Runcie cuts refreshingly through obfuscation. Gay clerics may bridle at his remark that they make him nervous because "I've always been conscious that they might stab me in the back because I wasn't one of them". Yet it was high time somebody aired the fact that while there are many kindly, virtuous, unmalicious homosexuals in the Church of England, there is also a nest of bitchy, high-church camp vipers, emerging from particular theological colleges where they call one another "Gladys" and "Mabel" and even the lecturers say "come on, girls!" Something of this is uncovered, unflatteringly, in the book: good for it.

As for the Royal Family, the insights are pure gold. It is time that somebody expressed exasperation at the way the Prince of Wales is quite capable of maintaining a sullen silence when I dislike what the paper does.

Lord Runcie's evocation of the strangely embarrassing quality of the Queen's shyness, the uncertainty that people feel in her presence, and yet also of her steadfastness in going out of her way to support her embattled Archbishop during the miners' strike. Not to mention the glorious images of Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister being "like sitting next to electricity", and of "Willie Whitelaw and my other friends" responding to anti-government sermons by saying mournfully: "You've got to remember it's all very difficult."

These are perhaps not supporting beams of history, but are invaluable rags of authentic upholstery. We need them all the more because, unlike other rags from that era, from the likes of Alan Clark, they are given without malice. This is gossip underpinned by charity: stories that make events understandable. It is a humble, a human, a perfectly valid way for a man of God to communicate.

Foster a sky-high London

Anatole Kaletsky
welcomes our tallest tower

Sir Norman Foster wants to build Europe's tallest building on the site of the Baltic Exchange in London. And why not? Because his plan will provoke howls of outrage. It will dominate the London skyline. It will be a monstrous carbuncle. It will destroy the medieval intimacy, or (take your pick) the Victorian splendour, of the City of London. It will add to the glut of City offices filled by flashy barrow-boys from Romford and will probably come onto the market at exactly the moment of the next economic slump.

All of these accusations may well be valid — although people who denounce the Foster plan on the architectural merits of the building itself might do well to take a closer look at what seems to be an imaginative and exciting design. But such accusations are completely beside the point.

The point is that a host of monstrous carbuncles already dominate London's shapeless skyline. The NatWest and Telecom Towers, Centre Point and the Barbican have long since broken the coherence and proportions of London's skyline, making it one of the ugliest cities in Europe to view from afar.

St Paul's is already overwhelmed, hemmed-in and insulted by hideous low-rise buildings — not least the recently-completed concrete bunker of Blackfriars Station, supposedly designed to reopen the famous view of the Cathedral from Fleet Street and Ludgate Hill.

As for the few remaining corners of medieval intimacy and Victorian splendour which have survived the greed of the developers and the insouciance of London's planners, these depend on how buildings look and function at street level, not on whether they rise 100 or 1,000ft into the air.

I am not an architect, a planner, a conservationist or any other kind of expert. But, having lived for the past 20 years alternately in London and New York, this much is evident even to me.

Don't get me wrong. I do not like skyscrapers in London, and I certainly do not prefer Modernism to warmer, more humane architectural styles. On the contrary, my architectural predictions, for what they are worth, are firmly on the side of the nostalgic traditionalists who follow the Prince of Wales. I believe passionately in preserving buildings from before the First World War. I curse British Telecom for trying to destroy the red Jubilee telephone boxes, and I dream of restoring Victorian lantern-style lamp-posts to the streets of London. Why then do I hope that Sir Norman Foster will build his Millennium Tower?

The negative argument is that London has not had a skyline worth preserving for 30 years, since the planners allowed the Hilton Hotel, the Knightsbridge Barracks and Centre Point. Since then, brutalist Modernism has ruined one area of central London after another, the most tragic examples being the area around St Paul's and government-sponsored concrete blocks in Victoria Street. After this destruction, the only hope of restoring some beauty to the streets of central London lies in the demolition of the 1960s monstrosities. And the only way to promote this demolition is to combine the rigorous preservation of pre-1914 buildings with the construction of bigger and better buildings which will tempt tenants away from the eyesores of the 1960s.

This is a process which, thankfully, has begun, largely because of a social change which has transformed the economics of large skyscrapers such as the Millennium Tower. Very large skyscrapers are in demand because of welcome changes in the social psychology of office work. People now work in huge open-plan spaces instead of private offices. Today's buildings are designed to accommodate and encourage social interaction, fluidity and an appearance of equality. These are considered so important that banks, insurance companies and other large employers are willing to pay far higher rents for buildings with large floor plans than for older, smaller buildings.

Finally, there is an aesthetic argument for more skyscrapers. Once the balance of a city's architecture has shifted so far against the past, the towering walls of enormous skyscrapers can actually enhance the intimacy of a carefully preserved older quarter — as it does, for example, in Wall Street, Broadway and Nassau Street in downtown New York. And clusters of ever-larger high-rise buildings, far from destroying views and obliterating individual buildings, can actually transform a city skyline into a sort of collective work of art. Who could deny that the views of Lower Manhattan from Brooklyn Bridge or the Holland Tunnel approach are among the wonders of the world? Or that the combined beauty of this man-made mountain is infinitely greater than the sum of its parts?

Gut reaction

DIANA, Princess of Wales, has reacted with dismay to Humphrey Carpenter's biography of Lord Runcie, as serialised in *The Times* this week.

Hitherto, the Princess has regarded Lord Runcie as a close friend. But their relationship may well founder after Runcie's description of her as an actress and a schemer.

During a small dinner at the weekend in London, the Princess said she had seen the biography. "She said that she was particularly upset, as she had always held him in the greatest esteem," explains a guest. "She had looked upon him as a supporter and personal friend ever since he officiated at the ill-fated wedding in 1981."

Lord Runcie discloses in the biography that the Prince of Wales appeared to be depressed about the prospect of getting married. He also says that he knew of the relationship between the Prince and Camilla Parker Bowles before it became public. And he talks of a conversation he enjoyed with the Princess at a banquet. "How goes it?" he asked, in that demotic way that archbishops have these days.

she replied, in the same vernacular vein, tapping her midriff. The message, according to Runcie, was that the Princess had guts. Runcie too will need guts on his next encounter with Diana.

The Prince of Wales's friend the Earl of Shelburne is celebrating hitting his first hole-in-one. The earl managed the fear



Cash buyers

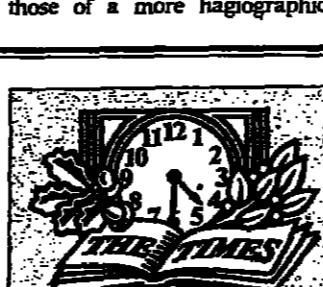
FOR the first time in more than 50 years, cash-rich cricket fans will have the chance to jump the 20-year queue to become members of Marylebone Cricket Club. The club is planning to offer 250 life memberships at £10,000 a piece to raise money for its new grandstand.

Stuffy members — the sort who tend to wear MCC colours even on holidays abroad in the hope of a glimmer of recognition — are appalled. "Very sad," harrumphed one. "It's a queue-barging opportunity for the *noeuvve riches*. Too tacky for words."

But the grandstand has to be paid for, say the officials. "The existing grandstand was financed in exactly the same way in the 1920s," says the club. "By the sale of life memberships. We're using exactly the same formula as then."

Who benefits?

AS IAN BOTHAM appeals against the result of his libel case against Imran Khan, I have news of a financial blow to Botham's fellow court contestant, Allan Lamb.



pinching modernisers in Berlin

this evening where the local C of E church is threatened with closure. St George's was given to the British by the citizens of Berlin in 1945. Until 1991 it was used largely by the military and run by an army chaplain. Since the withdrawal of the Armed Forces and their financial support, however, it has struggled.

The local vicar, John Turner, stands accused of failing to put his back into the church's survival. Chief among his foes is Deborah Engler, resident in Berlin for 20 years: "Perhaps we're clinging to the old idea of the parish priest, but Turner doesn't give a damn."

The Anglican authorities regard Engler and her troops as a lunatic fringe. "Nothing has been decided," they say. "But the church is one of our most heavily subsidised, and the Lutherans are offering an ecumenical olive-branch by letting them have their services in their cathedral."

Baton charge

THRUSTING up into music's firmament is Daniel Harding, 21, who will tomorrow night conduct the Berlin Philharmonic in its home town.

The protege of Sir Simon Rattle, honcho at the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Harding

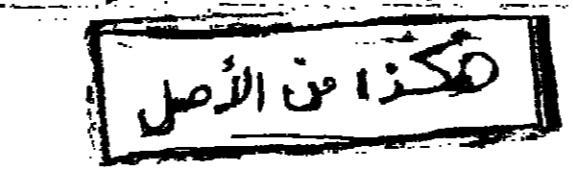


Harding *preciosissimo*

was merely a guest, watching the orchestra rehearse when its conductor, Franz "Worse than most" Welser-Möst went down with throat trouble, which apparently makes conducting impossible.

From his place in the stalls, Britain's great baton hope was asked to stand in and must be the youngest ever to conduct the orchestra, once the field of the terrifying Herbert von Karajan, in a programme of Dvořák, Brahms and Berlioz.

P.H.S.





PRINCE AND PRELATE

Charles can still govern the Church of England

The Prince of Wales is one of the very few people in Britain who is forced by the circumstances of his birth to hold a certain faith. A man with less introspective tendencies might find such a constraint no more than an inconvenience. But the Prince has a questing soul. So it is perhaps unsurprising to hear from Lord Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury, that the heir to the throne is "disenchanted" with the Church of England.

If, as we greatly hope, the Prince of Wales ascends the throne, he will become Defender of the Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church of England. It would help, says Lord Runcie, if he were to love the institution "a bit more". The Prince has been baptised and confirmed in the Church of England and is a regular communicant. He is a passionate about church architecture, church music and the language of the Prayer Book. But he is clearly attracted by other religions too. In his interview with Jonathan Dimbleby, the Prince even posed the possibility that he might one day become "defender of faith" instead, an extended, multicultural version of his mother's current role.

It is hard to see how such a position could coexist with the continuing establishment of the Church of England. But disestablishment, if it ever happened, should be a matter for the Church, not the monarch. There are many reasons why disestablishment could bring bad consequences; such consequences would be worse, however, if the rift were precipitated by the Prince's "disenchantment" or his marital status.

None of us has a window onto the Prince's soul. But even supposing that his Anglican faith were somewhat less secure than that of his mother's, would that really threaten a loosening of the links between Church and State? The future Supreme Governor would still be a spiritual man who has done his best to support the Church's efforts to bring

holiness into human lives. The spiritual aspect of the Prince's character is beyond doubt. He has tried earnestly to open people's eyes to the existence of another dimension beyond the material. Since his teenage years, he has exhibited an intellectual curiosity bordering on restlessness about the meaning of life in general and religion in particular. The Prince of Wales seems to have unbundled the religion of his upbringing and tried to put it back together in a way that satisfies his quest for truth.

This preference for an *à la carte* faith is different from the *table d'hôte* of the generation before him. That is a measure of the more questioning, less deferential age in which he grew up. There are some who accept the conventional wisdom, and others who try to arrive at their own beliefs through contemplation, analysis and observation. The Prince of Wales is one of the latter, and his very curiosity about spirituality and the derivation of morality ought to make him just as interesting a head of the Church as an unquestioning Anglican who attends church merely through force of habit.

Many deeply committed Christians have agonised about their faith. The Prince of Wales is not alone in this. He is right to recognise that his future subjects number many of other religions, whose loyalty he should seek. But the Church of England will continue for the foreseeable future, to have a special place in the life of the monarch.

So the heir to the throne has a duty to try to reconcile his doubts with the job that he will be required to do. He should seize on opportunities to show his commitment to the church whose titular leadership he will one day hold. Anglicanism is a broad church — some would say too broad. It can easily accommodate his beliefs. If he took the former Archbishop's advice, and learnt to love the Church a little more, his affection would be gladly returned.

BASE TROUBLE

The Okinawa rape could yet destroy a vital American alliance

The American servicemen who, a year ago this month, abducted and raped a young girl on Okinawa have been convicted and are serving their sentences. But in Japan, the Okinawa affair stubbornly refuses to go away. The unspoken accords underlying the vital US-Japan security relationship have been thrust into contention by this ugly case.

In April, President Clinton flew to Japan to offer both a formal apology for the crime and concessions to the Okinawans, who for years have complained that their small islands, which house 75 per cent of the US bases in Japan, have been made Tokyo's military "dumping ground". He also reminded the Japanese that if America yielded to popular pressure and pulled its forces out, the entire Asian region would face an arms race. Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, needs no persuading of this argument. But he has yet to convince his public.

Mr Clinton's offer to reduce the base areas in Okinawa by a fifth has so far solved nothing. Instead, Washington is caught in a confrontation between Okinawan separatists and the central Government in Tokyo. Okinawans grumble that they want more bases closed and a review of the agreements governing the status of US military personnel in Japan. On Sunday, a majority of them reinforced this message in a referendum.

Masahide Ota, the Governor of Okinawa, demands the total closure of the bases by 2015 and has meanwhile backed the thousands of Okinawan landlords who own tiny patches of the base areas and who are refusing to renew them when they expire next year. In theory, that could force the bases to close, although last month the Japanese Supreme Court rejected his claim that the American presence was an unconstitutional burden on the islands and

ruled that he must use his powers to renew the leases compulsorily. In addition, plans to move some US bases to the main Japanese archipelago have run into difficulty. The Japanese Defence Minister has been travelling the country's prefectures cap in hand, but none has so far agreed to accommodate the facilities that will have to be moved.

With Mr Ota so far ignoring the Supreme Court, the confrontation has split the governing coalition. A special session of the Diet this month is supposed to deal with the Okinawa issue before a planned US-Japanese meeting of defence and foreign ministers. But agreement is not assured. The Social Democratic Party has threatened to oppose the plans put forward by its Liberal Democrat partners. If Mr Hashimoto fails to strike a deal with Mr Ota when he meets the Okinawan Governor today, therefore, it could force the dissolution of parliament.

Since the Liberal Democrat Party is expected to gain at the expense of the Social Democrats, whose latent pacifism has been revived by the Okinawa affair, a snap election might be the best outcome. But for both Japan and America, there are risks in an "Okinawa election". The middle of an American presidential campaign is not the ideal time for Japanese to be debating the merits of a security treaty which, some Republicans argue, allows Asia's wealthiest nation to avoid providing its own defence.

American critics of the US-Japan treaty have already noted that it was from Guam, not Okinawa, that US B52s took off for last week's Iraq mission. China, sensing its moment, is whipping up a storm over the disputed Diaoyu-Senkaku Islands. The Okinawa affair worries the Pentagon, and with reason: Asia is the last place it wants to see any weakening in an American alliance.

NOBEL HELL

Even Swedish literary judges deserve a break

The Swedes have found a new definition of hell. It is worse than all their previous attempts at infernal punishment — a week with *Abba*, a month of smorgasbord, a year of listening to after-dinner jokes about *Volvos*. Their new hell is to be a member of the committee of the Swedish Academy that judges the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Surely, you say, this should be a position full of honour and good reading? It seems not. A rule of 1901 requires at least 12 of the committee's 18 members to select the winner. But only 14 currently attend the committee's deliberations and more are threatening to drop out. The others have stopped turning up for reasons of literary pique, politics and loss of energy. One 92-year-old member says he feels tired and has nothing left to contribute. And, by a decree of King Gustav III who reigned from 1771-92, the academy is forbidden to recruit replacements. There is a serious risk that the academy will fail to obtain the quorum of 12 votes.

So like Tithonus, the Swedish academics are tortured: their bifocals become thicker, their attention spans shorter, their tastes more frozen and every year they are forced to read new books. Like Sisyphus they roll a mountain of books up their annual hill, to find it rolling down again for another year. Then they are tormented by

controversial even than the Peace Prize. When its judges are not being ridiculed for their cabals (denying the prize to Graham Greene) they are prodded with red-hot poker for political correctness (rotating the prize by Buggins's turn). Sometimes they are roasted for obscurity: many of Nobel's literary laureates are less well read today even than Karl A. Gjellerup and Hendrik Pontoppidan. Sometimes they are boiled in oil for cowardice: two members of the committee have not attended its meetings since 1989, because they were not allowed to denounce Iran's *fatwa* on Salman Rushdie.

Judging any literary prize is a burden as well as a privilege. The responsibility is heavy and so is the workload, even for naturally constant readers. Few who have judged a literary prize would volunteer for a second year of reading, remembering and ranking books in a league table, being rewarded with a modest honorarium and then being abused in public for their pains. The Nobel Prize's rule that its judges cannot resign but can only be thrown out or die is cruel and unnatural punishment. The great healer will eventually heal the present crisis, though Swedish academics are long-lived. But the academy should reconsider its internal diktat forbidding resignations and replacements, at least until infallible by now.

Sit still vac?

From Mr Jeremy Posnansky, QC

Sir, Mr Simon Preston's colleague (letter, August 31), whose attempts to advertise a vacancy for a married couple to act as caretakers on his estate have been frustrated by a veto on the use of the words "man", "woman", "husband", "wife" or "married couple", might not offend the magazine's censor if his advertisement stated: "Caretakers [2] wanted for country estate. Successful candidates must share a valid marriage certificate".

Yours faithfully,

JOAN BAGLEY,
Cotel House, Rohais de Haut,
St Andrew, Guernsey, CL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Lord Runcie's revelations and their repercussions

From the Bishop of St Germans

Sir, Choosing a biographer is clearly a dangerous thing to do. Robert Runcie, it seems, enjoyed talking with Humphrey Carpenter and did so at length over several years (Weekend extracts, September 7; reports September 7, 9). Yet, despite the largely affectionate portrait Carpenter has written, the former Archbishop is not content. It's not hard to see why.

A tape recorder was running during their lengthy conversations. Carpenter has used much of this, sometimes verbatim, whereas Runcie understood it was for background information and scene-setting. So, instead of a biography we have a lively journalistic character sketch.

The problem is that there is a great deal of archival material at Lambeth Palace that remains unread and undigested, even though Carpenter had access to it. There's plenty of evidence against which to test the reminiscences of a retired archbishop and his acquaintances.

Impressions and fancies have taken the place of solid research. That's why there remains an official biography still to be written.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM ST GERMANS
(Chaplain to the Archbishop of
Canterbury, 1987-93),
32 Falmouth Road,
Truro, Cornwall.
September 7.

From the Reverend Ray Simpson

Sir, I am not surprised if Prince Charles is "disenchanted" with the Church of England, on the basis of the remarks you quote from Lord Runcie. One example of the Prince's "incon-

sistent" views as reported by Lord Runcie, "that the Church should be creating centres of healing in the inner cities — ought to be bringing together the spiritual, the intellectual and the architectural", seems to me to be a brilliant description of the Church's purpose. It is, in fact, to this that I and many others have devoted our ministry.

Although in recent times the Church of England has drifted off course, there is now a grassroots movement that seeks to return it to its "Civil Service" roots.

The Community of Aidan and Hilda, of which I am a member, was set up in 1994 to seek "the healing of the land through men, women and children who draw inspiration from the Celtic saints". Its network of members throughout the country try to follow a simple way of life that cherishes creation and which remains true to the Catholic and biblical faith first brought to these lands by gentle, radiantly Christian saints such as St Aidan.

A new cradling of spirituality is taking place which, in my view, may prove to be as significant as that first cradling of Christianity from Lindisfarne. Inconsistency — Lord Runcie's charge — is not one of its hallmarks.

Yours faithfully,
RAY SIMPSON,
Lindisfarne Retreat,
Marygate,
Holy Island, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
September 9.

From Mr Brian North Lee

Sir, The religious attitudes of the Prince of Wales, if Lord Runcie reads them aright (September 9), give pause for thought.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN NORTH LEE,
32 Barrowgate Road, Chiswick, W4.
September 9.

What do we ask principally of our probable future monarch? That he be a man of his time is essential, as is dedication and sensitivity to the nation's harmony and well-being.

In all these matters I have nothing but praise for the Prince. If he is less in love with the Church of England than desired, it is up to the Church to ponder the probable causes of a disengagement many share.

No religious organisation has a monopoly of spiritual insight. The fact that people have turned additionally, and in genuine need, to wider and sometimes lay sources of inspiration can benefit churches and act as a caution to those which are too ready to sweep uncomfortable and unresolved matters under the carpet.

I'm much less concerned to see the Prince of Wales as a future Supreme Governor of the Church of England than to see him as a searcher after the truth, combining integrity with unblinded concern and honest caring. He has not let us down in these at all, and we should be grateful for him.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN NORTH LEE,
32 Barrowgate Road, Chiswick, W4.
September 9.

From Prebendary Rodney Schofield

Sir, Following Lord Runcie's revelations, is it not at all likely that any members of the Royal Family, or for that matter anyone in the public eye, will confide in an Anglican bishop ever again?

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY SCHOFIELD,
West Monkton Rectory,
Taunton, Somerset.
September 9.

From Mr John Price

Sir, Historic Scotland's Inspector of Monuments, Doreen Grove, may be correct in suggesting that conventional X-radiography would be unsuitable in detecting hearts in sealed lead caskets ("Light falls on legend of Robert the Bruce", September 3), although the technique can be useful for thin lead artefacts. What would be more useful is neutron radiography which can penetrate metal and show up organic remains inside containers.

Details of the technique were published about six years ago in the international archaeological science journal, *Archaeometry*. Another piece of research on the subject, published elsewhere in the 1970s, showed that at least one copper alloy box from a collection of Egyptian artefacts given to Queen Victoria contained a mummified cat.

Neutron radiography allows both metal and organic material to be shown on the radiographic plate but does require a nuclear reactor. Perhaps Historic Scotland could liaise with government nuclear research facilities to establish what can be found inside sealed metal containers?

Although hearts in lead caskets are not unknown from archaeological excavations, what is not widely known is that there is a good network of several dozen X-ray machines under the control of archaeological conservators throughout the UK.

With the recent changes in treasure trove legislation and the suggestion from the Department of National Heritage that 400,000 artefacts are being found annually, one wonders whether improved arrangements could be made to allow a significant proportion to undergo radiographic examination.

This not only would provide additional interest for the finder when there is a highly corroded and shapeless lump, but would often provide an excellent record for the museum archive and archaeological specialist.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PRICE
(Chief Conservator, 1972-91,
Ancient Monuments Laboratory,
19 Cordon Lane, Farnham, Surrey.
September 3.

Oxford groups

From Mr Robert Long

Sir, I have just spent a splendid day in Oxford with my godson. As we walked through the Meadows, I noticed at the entrance to Christ Church two queues of tourists awaiting admission to the college. Each queue had a notice above it — one read "large groups" and the other read "small groups".

It is indeed comforting that in an age of relativism, some things are absolute.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT J. LONG,
23 Chatley Road,
Great Leighs, Chelmsford, Essex.
September 5.

In tune in the womb

From Mr Peter J. Pynn

Sir, I read with some interest your report (September 5) of research at Harvard which has established that the youngest of infants can appreciate music and that, even at that tender age, consonant music is preferred to the dissonant.

My own research findings go further. My wife and I attended a number of opera performances when she was carrying our daughter Josephine. While the unborn child lay restfully through *The Marriage of Figaro* with just occasional rhythmic movements, during Birtwistle's *The Mask of Orpheus* she kicked and squirmed in the womb in obvious distress, which mirrored that of her father.

It is only fair to add that her mother is a great fan of Sir Harrison and Mozart and sat through both performances totally enthralled.

Yours faithfully,

PETER J. PYNN

Cancer treatment

From Dr Sidney B. Rosalki

Sir, I was sorry to read the negative remarks made by Mr Mike Fried of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund about the potential value of replacement therapy for cancer with the gene known as p53: "It looks interesting, but all the patients died" ("Bad gene 29 in cancer milestone", August 29).

Sadly, death from tumour growth is to be anticipated in all patients with advanced lung cancer. Any extension to their survival as the result of replacing this tumour-suppressor gene, if it can be achieved without exacerbating the disease, is therefore to be applauded.

Mr Fried says that for the treatment to have any value 100 per cent of cancerous cells would have to be replaced,

From Mrs Joan M. Bagley

Sir, My suggested wording for Mr Preston's advertisement would be:

"Two persons required as estate caretakers, sexually unmatched though legally united."

Whom have I offended now?

Yours truly,
JOAN BAGLEY,
Cotel House, Rohais de Haut,
St Andrew, Guernsey, CL

Business letters, page 31

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We

Yours faithfully,

SIDNEY B. ROSALKI

Blewbury House,
32 Jamestown Road, NW1.
September 3.

From Mr T. Martin Clucas

Sir, Perhaps Mr Preston's colleague should try advertising for a multi-generational duo and, to underscore his ideal, add (matrimonially-linked). Given time, the conventional advertisement might become "Wanted: M-GD (m-) caretakers".



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 9: The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Care, today opened Scottish Equitable's new premises and attended a four-course luncheon at their Head Office, 1 Lincolns Cross, Edinburgh. Park. Edinburgh. Hosted by Councillor Brian Fallon (Deputy Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh). Her Royal Highness, Patron, the National Autistic Society, this afternoon visited the Lothian Autistic Society and attended the Autism Children's Playday at the Leisure Centre, Newmarket Road, Edinburgh.

The Princess Royal, Visitor, later visited St Mary's Cathedral Workshop Project, 28 Manor Place, Edinburgh. Her Royal Highness, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Care, also attended a four-course dinner at the Royal Thunes Club, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
September 9: The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, this morning visited The Prince's Youth Business Trust, Trade Fair at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, and was received by Michael Jeffery, President of the Prince's Trust, and Mr Robert Taylor, Vice-Minister (Mr Robert Taylor).

His Royal Highness this afternoon opened the St George's Post 16 Centre, Newtown, Birmingham, and saw further and adult education courses in progress.

YORK HOUSE
September 9: The Duke of Kent, President, this evening attended a dinner to mark the retirement of Sir Michael Verney, Chairman of the Royal National Library Institution, at the Royal Thunes Club, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

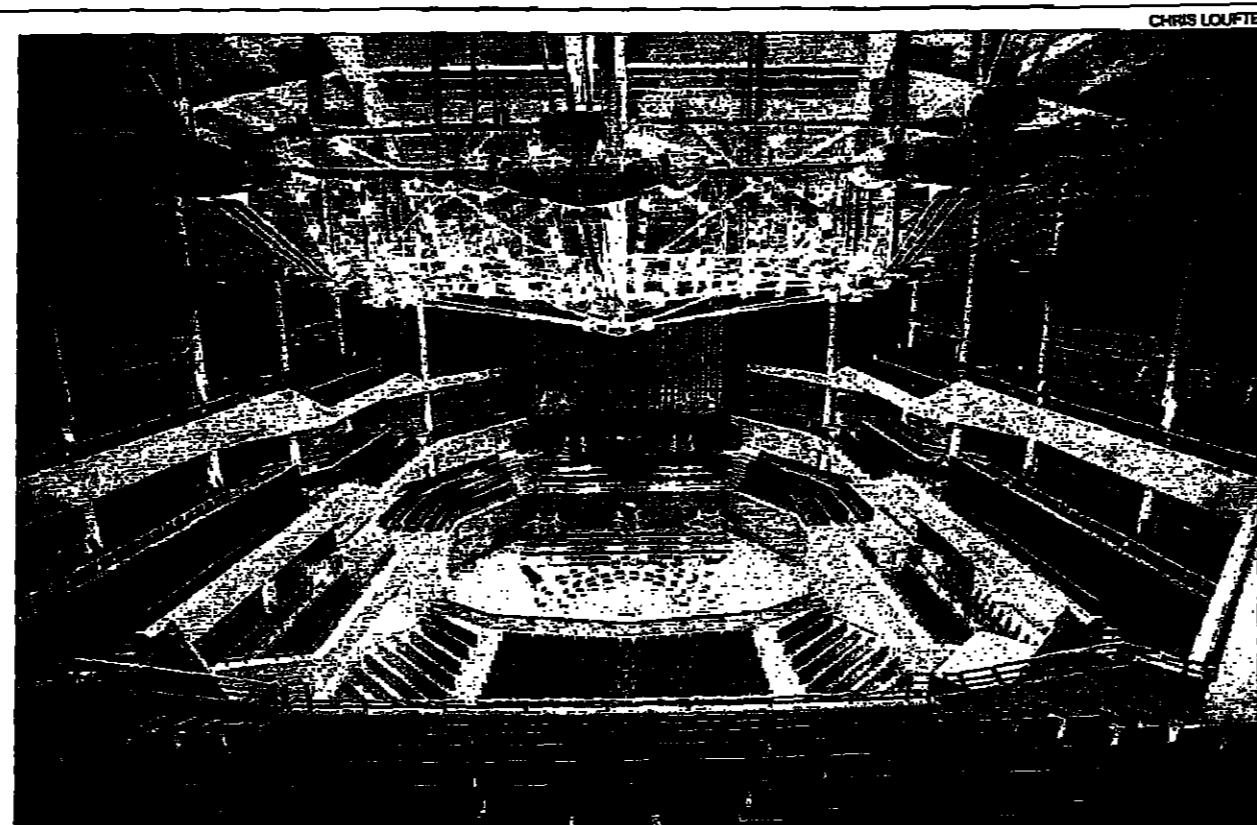
School news

Charterhouse
The Oration Quarter begins today with 707 pupils. The Rev John Witheridge takes up his appointment as Headmaster. Mr Simon Brennen succeeds Mr David Lincoln as Headmaster of Locketts. Alex Everington is Head of School and Nicola Clayton is Head Girl. Philip Westcott is Captain of Football and Katharine Adair is Captain of Lacrosse. There will be a Junchtime Concert by the String Orchestra and Wind Music Society at St Martin-in-the-Fields at 1.00pm on Tuesday, October 8. A Gaudy will be held at the School on Saturday, October 12, for pupils in the School during Long Quarter 1983 and who left in or before Oration Quarter 1988 (details from the Recorder). The Sir Robert Birley Memorial Lecture will be given by Mr Max Hastings on Wednesday, October 16. The Founder's Day Dinner will be held at the London Charterhouse on Wednesday, October 16, and the Service of Commemoration in the Memorial Chapel will take place on Friday, December 13. Exeat is from October 25 to November 3. The Quarter ends on December 14. Leeds Grammar School
The last academic year on the present sites commenced for Senior and Junior schools on September 1. The re-development at Alwoodley Gates is at the half-way stage and proceeding well. Mr Ian Brinsford has retired and is succeeded as Head of Upper School by Mr Paul Lunn. Mr Paul Lester and Mr John Jordan have also retired. Head of School for the Michelmersh Hams is Peter Haines of the Upper Sixth. The Old Diners is in the Dining Hall on Friday, October 4. Old Leos are invited to attend Open Morning on October 5 and on certain other Saturdays for a last look at the old buildings. Details for Old Leos are available from the Headmaster's Secretary.

Queen's College, London
Term begins today and ends after the Carol Service at All Souls, Langham Place, to be held on Tuesday, December 17, at 2pm. Half term is from Friday, October 18, to Tuesday, October 29, inclusive. The elected Senior Student (Head Girl) is Rochelle Batten and the Deputy Senior Students are Beinish Nafees and Jessica O'Connell. There will be a drinks party for the Class of 95 on Wednesday, September 25, at 5.30pm. There will be performances of *Macketh* on November 7, 8 and 9.

Queen's College, Associateships, which were first granted by Royal Charter in 1853, have this year been awarded to Gellian Maitre-Bates (French, Maths, Italian), Beinish Nafees (Italian, French, Religious Studies, English), Ceyda Okur (Biology, Chemistry, French), Kaynoosh Pouyanard (Maths, French, Spanish), Fay Salama (History of Art, Italian, French).

Woodside Park School, North London
The Autumn Term began yesterday. Mr Robin Metters takes up his appointment as Headmaster of all departments of the School. The Captain of the School is Zafir Bulhari. Headboy and Headgirl of the Preparatory Department are Ajanthan Arulpragasm and Katherine Rees. An Open Evening will be held at the Secondary Department on Tuesday, October 1, and an Open Day at the Preparatory and Pre-Preparatory Departments on Thursday, November 7. The International Baccalaureate Programme begins this term, and an 18.10pm Evening will take place on Thursday, October 10. The Senior and Junior Department Carol Services will be held on Wednesday, December 11, and Thursday, December 12, respectively. Term ends on Friday, December 13.



Inside Manchester's magnificent new concert hall—the view the paying customers will get from their seats

A £42m new home opens for the Hallé

By KATE ALDERSON

THE £42 million Bridgewater Hall, the new home of the Hallé Orchestra, opens tomorrow with hopes of becoming the Carnegie Hall of the North of England.

The 25,000-tonne hall, a soaring glass, stainless steel and sandstone structure in Manchester's city centre, will resound to the world premiere of George Benjamin's new work, Elgar's *Enigma Variations* and Walton's *Belsazar's Feast*.

To give a flavour of the hall's commitment to both new and historical works, the second night concert will feature world premieres by Thomas Ades and John Adams. On Saturday the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, under

Daniel Barenboim, will be performing.

The hall, designed specifically for classical music, is set on coiled springs to absorb vibrations from passing trams. When the massive IRA bomb exploded in Manchester in June workers inside the 2,400-seater auditorium, insulated by the hall's double walls, heard nothing.

The Bridgewater is a welcome new home for the Hallé which has been based for more than a century in the Free Trade Hall, a Victorian edifice now too shabby and cramped for a modern orchestra.

A £1.2 million pipe organ, the largest of its kind to be installed in Britain this century, has been brought from Denmark.

As well as housing the Hallé, the hall will be the performance base for the BBC Philharmonic and the Manchester Camerata, who between them will perform more than 100 concerts a year.

The hall, designed by Renent Howard Wood Levin architects in partnership with Arup Acoustics, will be a venue for international orchestras, celebrity recitals, late-night and lunchtime concerts as well as comedy, jazz and popular music.

The hall has been financed with funds from Manchester City Council, Central Manchester Development Corporation and the European Development Fund and will be the first to be run independently of public subsidy.

Royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as Patron of Victim Support, will attend the launch of Victim Support's Report on Children in Court, at Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, at 11.00. President of the Save the Children Fund, will tour Asprey's design studio and workshop and attend a luncheon with the chairman at Asprey, New Bond Street, at 12.15. Also attend the National Correspondents' Conference of the Royal British Finger, advice for young women athletes and dancers, their coaches and teachers, at the Royal Society of Medicine, at 2.10pm, and as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a dinner at the Royal Thunes Club at 7.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend a service at St Andrew's Church, Holborn, at 5.30 to mark the bicentenary of the birth of William Manders, the founder of the Royal Free Hospital. Lady Dowson.

Annual meeting

The Pilgrims
Lord Carrington, KG, CH, President of The Pilgrims, and Mr Robert M. Worcester, Chairman, presided at the annual meeting of the society held on the night of September 10. Afterwards Dame Sheila Rinington delivered the annual Sir Harry Britain Memorial Lecture.

Dinner

Surrey University
Professor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor of Surrey University, and Dr Grace Dowling were the hosts at a dinner held last night at the university in honour of St Anthony and Lady Caro and Sir Philip Dowling, President of the Royal Academy, and Lord Dowson.

Birthdays today

Mr Thomas Allen, singer, 52; Mr Michael Bublé (Michael Barry), broadcasting executive and food journalist, 55; Dr Sarah Cowley, theologian, 45; Mrs Beryl Cook, painter, 70; Mr Brian Donohoe, MP, 48; Mr John Entwistle, rock guitarist, 52; Professor C.H.M.J. Gillies, expert on tropical medicine, 75; Mr Anthony Higgins, chairman, Caradon, 60; Mr Christopher Hogwood, musicologist, 55; Mrs J.D. Makinson, Cricketer, 55; Mr Michael Koldewey, architect of the Palace of Westminster, 71; the Very Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, 67; Mr Norman Morris, choreographer, 65; Lord Nolan, 68; Mr Neville Ovens, former Chief Constable, Lincolnshire, 52; Mr Arnold Palmer, golfer, 67; General Sir Anthony Read, former governor, Royal Hospital Chelsea, 83; Sir Peter Reynolds, former deputy chairman, Rank Hovis McDougall, 57; Mr Denis Richard, air historian, 82.

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Sally Watts finds a burgeoning £3 billion home-grown food industry

Traditional tastes of Britain take off

With hundreds of small suppliers reviving traditional regional recipes and flavours, or creating new products, speciality food has become a growing area.

This sector, with its preserves, condiments and local cheeses, air-dried hams, smoked and cured fish and traditional sausages, employs around 20,000 people and has an annual turnover of about £3 billion.

According to Food From Britain (FFB), which promotes British food and drink worldwide, nearly a quarter of the sector employs three or four people; one fifth employs between ten and 100. A recent MORI survey, to which 150 producers responded, showed the average annual turnover was about £250,000. Many increased turnover by 100 per cent year on year.

"This reflects their management skills rather than the area they are in," says Fiona Gately, FFB marketing manager. "They are not setting up with huge amounts of capital. Some are redundant; they don't want to work for a big company again, they have a driving interest in food and some money to invest. A lot have a professional background, which can give them a good start."

Businesses range from the small supplier, running his own delivery service around delicatessens, farm shops, speciality food shops and catering outlets, to those selling to manufacturers and wholesalers. In this category Michael and

Diana Slack's farm-based business near Penrith, Cumbria, which produces home-cured, air-dried bacon and ham, the latter cooked in cider with flavourings such as juniper berries or honey and cinnamon. Outlets include the local shop at Orton and Harrods, which stocks some of Mr Slack's huge output of traditional Cumberland sausages.

FFB, which is sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, has training packages on aspects such as PR, hygiene legislation, business planning and strategic management; more subjects are in preparation. Another activity will be to help speciality groups to export.

Training and other initiatives are channelled through 15 regional and county groups — Tastes Of The West, Tastes Of Anglia, Yorkshire Pantry — which work closely with their members to promote business. In addition, there are A Taste Of Ulster, Scottish Enterprise and Welsh Food Promotions.

Events bring suppliers and buyers together. Next February 100 speciality producers will be at the International Food Exhibition at Earls Court, London.

Success involves hard work and careful planning. Mrs Gately says: "Often they have to reinvest all their profits in order to continue growing. They can't stand still. They must always look for new ranges, new markets."

Food From Britain: 123 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SA. Tel: 0171 233 5111.

Helping hand for the cheesemakers

FEW FOODS are more strongly regional than cheese. With several hundred varieties, it forms an essential ingredient of many small food shops.

The Specialist Cheesemakers' Association (SCA), formed in 1989 to deal with listeria worries and EC regulations, supports and advises 120 makers whose products include sheep and goat's cheese. Its 350 members include retailers and wholesalers. The SCA points beginners towards appropriate courses.

It has produced a *Guide To The Finest Cheeses of Britain and Ireland* by Juliet Harbutt. She observes that, though farmhouse makers have declined in number for most of this century, in the past decade a new generation of cheesemakers has revived the art, recipes and techniques.

To promote the trade, a cheese festival is held most years. There are also two annual farm open days, when members meet retailers and other producers. The next, in the middle of this month, will be in Scotland.

"Cheesemakers are often a one or two-man band," explains

Jane Maskew, SCA secretary. "Many start because they are farmers and have excess milk."

Among local products at Say Cheese delicatessen in Hertsmere, East Sussex, is one using a 100-year-old recipe, used when the springtime "rush of milk" meant farms had to find some way to put it to good use. They made a simple cheese. Now it is popular again.

David and Eleanor Robins, the owners, who have opened a second shop at Lewes, stock cheeses from all over Sussex, parts of Surrey and a farm in Normandy. French bread and rolls are baked daily. Fungi, fresh or dried, are a locally grown speciality; there are oils, vinegars and verjuice, an ancient condiment made with grapes.

The couple employ six part-timers and reckon they put in 7½ days a week. "It's incredibly hard work if you want to maintain standards," says Eleanor.

Specialist Cheesemakers' Association: PO Box 448, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs ST5 0BF. Tel: 01782 520580. Say Cheese Tel: 01323 833871.



Ross Southwell of Taylors Mustard, which exports to the US, Canada and Japan, says a passion for food helps a business to succeed

Hot and cold succeed in the niche market by maintaining quality

When Ross Southwell took over the 160-year-old Taylors Mustard company in 1990, turnover was £70,000. Today, with large, new premises at Tattenhall, Cheshire, and a wide range of mustards, oils, vinegars and dressings, it is approaching £1.3 million. Exports go to Canada, the US, Japan and other countries.

"You must have a passion for food and know the market," says Mr Southwell, who has been in the industry for 20 years. "Then find a specialist field. The quality market is nowhere near saturation. There's always potential for someone with a good, high-quality product, but they must keep up the standard."

His wife, Isabel, runs the factory while he manages the business side. They employ 12 full-timers, increased by 30 from July to handle the Christmas trade.

Mr Southwell stresses the value of good financial management, and advises suppliers taking on

premises. "Hygiene requirements are constantly tightening, so get the environmental health officer in at the planning stage. It's expensive — but cheaper in the long run."

Some suppliers spot a gap and develop a niche market. Cally and Richard Affleck began Boaters Flavoured Coffee Company at their cottage in 1989, after he had worked

in an American flavoured-coffee firm to learn the technique. They started with £1,000 and now have a £1.7 million turnover.

Later they moved to an industrial park at Ampthill, Bedfordshire, with Mr Affleck handling production and his wife marketing. Now they are transferring to double-sized premises, with a new product

market is frozen yoghurt. Within three years Farm Produce Marketing has become a brand leader with a £1.5 million turnover. Responding to a report by Strathclyde University, which concluded that Britain should source more home produce, the three partners built a £200,000 dairy at a farm near Nantwich, putting in stainless steel equipment and freezers.

At the time, France and America led the frozen yoghurt market in Britain, but have been ousted by the Nantwich company. Research showed customers wanted a healthy, creamy product with fruit and a yoghurt taste — which is what they got in three flavours.

"Many US yoghurts taste like ice-cream," says Jonathan Middlemiss, managing director and previously with ICI. Michael Allwood, a former dairy farmer, is financial director, and Jonathan Cope, who worked for a food broker, is director of marketing.

There is always potential for someone who has a good, high-quality product

in an American flavoured-coffee firm to learn the technique. They started with £1,000 and now have a £1.7 million turnover.

Later they moved to an industrial park at Ampthill, Bedfordshire, with Mr Affleck handling production and his wife marketing. Now they are transferring to double-sized premises, with a new product

specialists. Ironically, they sell to the huge US market. Mrs Affleck explains: "Competition there is so high, companies compete on price and the quality suffers. So a US department store ordered seven pallet loads from us."

They have learnt from this: "If we get UK competition, we'll still maintain quality." Another niche

Architect rates rural charm a winner

BY IOLA SMITH

IDENTIFYING business and design trends that could give rural areas the edge in the early decades of the 21st century is the aim of a £15,000 study ordered by the Development Board for Rural Wales.

The work is being undertaken by Robin Coombes, an architect with the Cardiff-based Burgess Partnership. He is convinced that rural areas' outstanding landscapes will be the key to their success in the next millennium as green issues become increasingly prominent.

Designers, developers and the business community alike will be seeking ways of ensuring that business premises and their products will be environmentally friendly," he says. "Architects, for example, will be looking for new recyclable building materials and will be seeking to construct factories and offices that are more energy-efficient."

The DBRW is already moving in this direction. It has constructed Britain's first purpose-built ecofactory, at Machynlleth. The board and Mr Coombes want to extend this approach across the region.

Ensuring that the built environment blends into the landscape will be a priority of the study. The beauty of the landscape is the reason that Mr Coombes believes that achieving such a blend will be easier in rural business parks than on inner-city industrial estates.

"Small is beautiful" is another trend that may have a big impact on business life in rural communities. Mr Coombes believes that small businesses in the remoter corners of rural areas should concentrate on meeting the needs of high-quality, niche markets. "I'm thinking in terms of lifestyle businesses, such as yacht building or high-quality publishing, where customers come to the company," he says. "Locating such businesses in attractive landscapes makes customers even more willing to travel to the workshops."

Being outside the main business areas is seen as less of a problem next century, as technology diminishes the importance of physical infrastructure. Rural businesses can compete electronically with city-centre firms, so, once again, indirect considerations, such as the quality of a location as a place to live and work in, come to the fore.



Tecs out to aid ethnic enterprise

RESEARCH is to be conducted to pinpoint the specific needs of small businesses run by members of ethnic minorities (Brian Collett writes).

London's eight training and enterprise councils (Tecs) decided to commission the research after their earlier survey, *London: Open City*, found that discrimination against ethnic minorities in business and employment was still widespread.

The new study will consider a range of obstacles to prosperity among ethnic businesses.

Many Asian business people, for example, follow their custom of finding loans only within their own families or communities and not even considering outside help.

Ram Gidoomal, a board member of Solotec, the Tec for south London, encountered this cultural barrier when an Asian man refused a visit to his own address. He insisted on going to Mr Gidoomal's office. "Borrowing from outsiders is not only not customary but is also considered shameful," Mr Gidoomal explained.

Many young Asian people do not share that reservation, but this attitude can cause a generation clash.

Afro-Caribbean people are, in many cases, reluctant to trust outside agencies or lenders.

Mr Gidoomal said that ethnic minorities found obtaining start-up funding in the 1980s and 1970s harder than did indigenous entrepreneurs. A problem in the 1990s was finding funds for business growth.

The Tecs are engaging consultants to do the research and hope to produce a report by Christmas and start using it to build support services for new or developing businesses.

Pharmacists battle to keep RPM

By BRIAN COLLETT



Instant advice can often be had in the traditional chemist shop — a service that could be lost

support from 17 organisations representing more than half a million people. A study that it commissioned from Deloitte &

Touche, the management consultancy, reported that abolition could close up to 3,035 pharmacies. It estimated that

additional annual travelling costs to customers could reach £15.9 million. This, however, would be only part of the

problem, said the action group.

A spokeswoman said customers would lose the prescription medicine delivery service offered by many high-street pharmacists and the instant advice received in the traditional chemist shop. The consultancy report said that even if a tenth of those who buy over-the-counter medicines saw their doctors instead, the annual cost to the NHS could be nearly £5 billion.

The spokeswoman said most of the customers who rely on chemist shops do not have cars. One group, Parents at Work, said: "Locally based pharmacies offer a particularly vital service to parents with young children, many of whom lack access to services further afield. Community-based pharmacies can also help by advising parents about minor childhood ailments, cutting down needless time spent visiting doctors' surgeries."

The OFT decision is expected by November.

In deciding the services to be provided, but it expressed some concern about how the Business Link network, which is still in its early stages, would cope with the proposed new financial and administrative responsibilities.

An entrepreneurs' club has been set up by the City Women's Network, a national business organisation for senior managerial and professional women. The club is a special interest group for members who work for themselves or are considering going into business.

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The ITF players, their points, and their values if you are considering the transfer option

GOALS		
Code	Name	Team
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal
10202	V Bartman	Arsenal
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal
10301	M Benlich	Aston Villa
10202	M Oakes	Aston Villa
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn
10402	S Given	Blackburn
10501	G Marshall	Celtic
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City
10702	J Filan	Coventry City
10801	M Taylor	Derby County
10802	F Hout	Derby County
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United
10902	L Key	Dundee United
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline
11101	N Southall	Everton
11102	J Kearton	Everton
11103	P Gourard	Everton
11201	G Renssel	Hearts
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United
11502	P Evans	Leeds United
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United
11601	K Poole	Leicester City
11602	Z Kalac	Leicester City
11603	K Keller	Leicester City
11701	D James	Liverpool
11702	T Warner	Liverpool
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester Utd
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester Utd
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough
12001	S Howie	Motherwell
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle Utd
12102	P Smicer	Newcastle Utd
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest
12203	T Wright	Nottingham Forest
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers
12401	A Goran	Rangers
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wed
12601	D Beasant	Southampton
12602	N Moss	Southampton
12702	L Perez	Sunderland
11803	T Coton	Sunderland
12801	I Walker	Tottenham
12901	L Milikow	West Ham
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon
13002	P Head	Wimbledon



Milosevic, the Aston Villa forward, scored two goals on Saturday to open his ITF account, giving him six points

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk Cr
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-1
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	4.00	0	0
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	-2	+4
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0	+7
30204	A Lingham	Arsenal	1.00	0	+5
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	0	0
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	+3	+13
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	+6	+13
30303	P McGrath	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn	4.00	0	-2
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn	2.50	0	-3
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	+4	+4
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0	0
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	+1	+1
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	+2	-2
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	+6	+20
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30701	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30702	M O'Neill	Chelsea	1.50	+5	+10
30703	J Salako	Chelsea	1.50	+2	+13
30704	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	+2	+5
30705	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+3
30706	P Telfer	Coventry City	3.50	0	0
30707	M Isaia	Coventry City	3.00	+4	+8
30708	W Boland	Derby County	2.50	0	0
30709	M O'Neill	Derby County	1.50	0	0
30710	J Salako	Derby County	2.50	+2	+5
30711	K Wright	Derby County	1.50	+1	+4
30712	P Williams	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
30713	M Issia	Derby County	0.50	0	0
30714	D McNamee	Derby County	3.00	+3	+9
30715	R Di Matteo	Derby County	3.00	+2	+5
30716	A Thorpe	Derby County	2.50	+1	+9
30717	D Pearce	Derby County	0.50	0	0
30718	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	+1	+3
30719	R Winters	Derby County	2.00	+2	+6
30720	R Simpson	Derby County	1.50	+2	+5
30721	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	+0	+0
30722	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	+0	+0
30723	S Flynn	Derby County	0.75	+0	+1
30724	R French	Derby County	0.50	+0	+1
30725	L Grant	Derby County	0.50	+0	+1
30726	D McNamee	Derby County	1.00	+1	+3
30727	J McNamee	Derby County	1.50	+0	+0
30728	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+0	+0
30729	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+0	+0
30730	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
30731	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
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30773	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
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30783	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
30784	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
30785	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
30786	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	+2
30787	R Winters	Derby County	1.50	+1	

